

SUPREME COURT.

FRIDAY, JUNE 19.

Présent, the second and third justices.

The king against Marschalk's York and London, Kip's Harry, and Shurmur's Cato, negroes, on trial upon indictment for the conspiracy.

Jury called, and the following jurors sworn, viz. Lawrence Garner, Joseph Sacket, John Sayer, John Smith, Charles Arding, Peter Evoutse, John Van Gelder, Thomas Grigg, John Bogart, James Charlton, Isaac Van Hook, Johannis Roshe.

Of council for the king, Mr. Murray, Mr. Chambers.

Mr. Chambers opened the indictment, and then both proceeded to examine the witnesses.

Jack, Comfort's negro, told his whole story of the plot, from Ben's first mentioning it to him at Comfort's; said that London, York and Cato were at the great meeting and entertainment at Hughson's; and that after the cloth was taken away by Hughson's daughter, and the knives and plates by Mary Burton, Hughson began to talk to the negroes, and said, that negroes could do as well as white people, and now was a good time to make a plot; others say no, stay one month and a half until the Spaniards come, and if they did not come then they would try for themselves: that they all present swore to the plot; all to set fire to the houses, and kill the people: some agreed to begin with their masters' and mistress's houses. That Cato told him that he put Ben Thomas's house on fire, and that he struck fire with a steel to do it: that York said, he would kill his mistress before he came abroad.^(k) York was to be a captain, and London to be an officer under him: that a week and a half after this the negroes had a great meeting at his (i. e. his master's) house; that he did not see Henry at Comfort's or Hughson's. That York said at Comfort's, he had no occasion for a knife, he would get a sword; and London said at Comfort's, he did not care what he did, or what became of his master or mistress.

Bastian said, he saw York and London at the two great meetings at Hughson's and Comfort's, each on a Sunday; and that the negroes all present agreed to burn their master's houses, and to kill the people; to burn the fort first, then to fire by Mr. De

(k) As the negroes told their story, they were first to kill their masters and mistresses, and then to come abroad, (i. e. out in the streets) to fight.

Lancey's: Ben swore them all. That by direction of Cæsar, (hanged) Hughson put the witness's name down in a paper, as a person engaged in the conspiracy; Cæsar said, he (the witness) was a faint hearted dog, but he would spirit him up. That London said, his master would trust him in the house more than York, and he could easier get into any room and murder him. That both York and London ground their knives at Comfort's; one had a knife of his own, the other took one of Jack's: that he saw Cato and Harry at the great meeting at Hughson's, where it was agreed, that the negroes were to get their master's arms, to burn their houses, and to murder them: that this meeting was three or four weeks before the fort was burnt, the meeting at Comfort's was the Sunday after: that he saw only Harry at Comfort's; he took a knife of Jack; the negroes all whetted their knives, and some said they were sharp enough to cut the white men's heads off. This witness gave an account of the treatment of Sandy at Comfort's, that upon Sandy's denying Jack to be concerned in the plot, and telling him, that if they wanted to fight, they might go and fight with the Spaniards, and not with their own masters and mistresses; that thereupon Sarah (Burk's negro wench) told Sandy that he was very impudent to talk so to Capt. Jack, and that he deserved to have his head cut off.

Tickle, a negro, said he was at the great meeting at Hughson's on a Sunday; that Hughson said to the negroes, now there was so many met together, it was a good time to make a plot; and he proposed to them, that they should set fire to the houses, steal as many goods as they could and bring them to him, and as the people came out of their houses they were to kill them, so to fire the houses all around the town; that he saw Harry at Hughson's, and he agreed to set his mistresses house on fire, and to kill the people; that Hughson swore all the negroes of the plot at that meeting, and then put their names down on a paper; that he saw Cato, the prisoner, at the meeting at Comfort's.

Sandy, a negro, gave the same account as on former trials concerning the negroes meeting at Comfort's, and what passed there: saw Harry (Kip's negro) at the meeting at Comfort's, but did not remember to have seen any of the other prisoners there.

Mr. George Joseph Moore and Jane Lovell sworn.

Mr. Moore proved the confessions of Quack and Cuffee at the stake the 30th of May, and said that both the criminals did there declare, that Harry (Kip's) was concerned in the conspiracy.

Jane Lovell said that the day Mr. Philipse's storehouse was on fire, Mink (Groesbeck's negro) was coming from his master's rope-

walk with a coil of ropes, and he and the prisoner Cato stopped by her house, and she said to them, that all this trouble was occasioned by them; to which Mink answered, he wished all concerned were tied to a stake and burnt; whereto Cato replied, he was a fool; if he knew as much as he did, he would hold his tongue.

These were all the notes that were taken upon this trial. See the several negro examinations and confessions affecting the prisoners.

As to London.—Jack, Comfort's, examination, No. 1. § 2, 5, 31. June 8. Bastian's examination, No. 1. § 7, 10. June 11.

As to York.—Jack, Comfort's, examination, No. 1. 2, 4, § 24, 31. June 8. Bastian's examination, No. 1. § 7, 10. June 11. Prince (Crooke's) examination, June 13.

As to Harry.—Cuff, Philipse's, confession at the stake, § 3. May 30. Quack, Roosevelt's, confession at the stake, § 2. May 30. Sandy's examination, No. 3. § 8. June 1. Sarah, Burk's, examination, No. 2, 3. June 1 and 5. Bastian's examination, No. 1. June 11. Tickle's examination and confession, § 4. June 12.

As to Cato.—Sarah, Burk's examination, No. 2. June 1. Jack Comfort's, examination, No. 1. § 2, 7. 31. June 8. Bastian's examination, No. 1. June 11.

The prisoners upon their defence stiffly denied all that had been testified against them.

Act of assembly, 4th Geo. II. for the more effectual preventing and punishing the conspiracy and insurrection of negro and other slaves, &c. read.

Then the counsel summed up the evidence against the prisoners; and the court having charged the jury, they withdrew, and, after a short stay, returned and found the prisoners *guilty*.

The lieutenant governor having this day issued a proclamation with the advice of his majesty's counsel, the same was read in court, taking notice of the conspiracy which had been set on foot, abetted, encouraged and carried on by several white people in conjunction with divers Spanish negroes brought hither from the West-Indies, and a great number of other negroes within this city and country, for the burning and destroying this whole city, and murdering the inhabitants thereof; to the end that mercy might be shewn to such as might merit the same, his honour thought it necessary, and did thereby in his majesty's name, offer and promise his majesty's most gracious pardon, to any and every person and persons, whether white people, free negroes, slaves, or others, who had been or were concerned in the said conspi-

racy, who should on or before the first day of July then next, voluntarily, freely and fully discover, and confession make, of his, her or their confederates, accomplices, or others concerned in the said conspiracy, and his, her, and their part or share, actings and doings therein, so that the person or persons making such discovery and confession, were not thereof before convicted, arraigned, or indicted for the same.

The King against Furman's Harry, Pemberton's Quamino, Lowe's Wan, (Indian) Kelley's London, Varian's Worcester, negroes or slaves.

The prisoners were arraigned upon an indictment for the conspiracy, whereto Harry, Quamino and Worcester pleaded *not guilty*, and Wan and London *guilty*.

Court adjourned to Tuesday the 23d instant, ten o'clock in the morning.

Confession of Wan, Indian man of Mr. Lowe, before the grand jury.

1. He said that about twelve months ago he met at the water-side, John, a free Indian, late of Cornelius Cosine, who carried him to Hughson's, where they drank a mug of beer, and paid for it; when John went away, but Hughson stopped him (Wan) and told him a law was made to sell no liquor to slaves, bid him not tell; Wan said he would not; then Hughson bid him swear on a book he held to him, to do what he should tell him, and Wan said he would; and he put his hand on the book and swore after what Hughson said, to burn his master's house, and to kill his master and mistress, and to assist to take the town.

2. That Ticklepitcher and Bastian were there when he swore; and being asked if any one else? he said none.

3. That John, the Indian, met him afterwards, and seeing him melancholy, asked him what was the matter? He (Wan) told him what he had done, on which John said it was good for him.

4. That Cuffee (Gomez's) and Francis (Bosch's) told him, they were to set their master's house on fire, and one day asked him if he was ready, and he told them yes.

5. That being asked what they were to do when they took the town? he answered, they were to kill the white people, the men, and take their wives to themselves.

Evidence affecting this slave.—Tickle's examination, § 4. June 12.

Confession of Primus, Debrosse's negro, before the grand jury.—He said,

1. That a week before Christmas he met Ticklepitcher and Kelly's London, on a Sunday at his master's still house, and gave them some punch, and they took a walk, and they carried him to a house on the north river, and called the man (Hughson) for liquor, and they drank, and the man of the house took them down below, and the man told him (Primus) that he must help them to rise to kill the white people, and must steal his master's gun, and must fight and kill his master and mistress first: he said he would help them, but cared not to kill his master and mistress, as they were kind to him, and the man put his hand on a paper, which he told him was a list of the names of those who were to rise, and swore him to be true to come and help them, or the devil fetch him.

2. That he soon after fell sick, and was sick all the winter.

3. That when the fire was at Van Zant's, his master sent him out for some things, and he went to the fire and helped as well as he was able, for he was weak, and then went home with his master.

4. That about two or three days after he went out and met Peck's Cæsar, who told him that he (Cæsar) and Gomez's Cuffee had set Van Zant's storehouse on fire.

5. Being asked, if he was at any other time at the white man's house? he said no.

Evidence affecting this negro.

Tickle's examination, No. 2. § 1. 12th June. Cæsar (Pintard's) examination, § 4. 22d June. London (Kelly's) examination, 2d July.

SATURDAY, JUNE 20.

Yesterday evening Mr. Marschalk sent to one of the judges, to inform him that his negroes York and London, convicted that day, had signified that they would make a confession, and withal that he was desirous of being by when they were examined; and accordingly the following confessions were taken in his presence this morning.

Confession of York, negro of Marschalk's.

1. He acknowledged that what the witnesses said on the trial yesterday was true.

2. That he went one Sunday morning early above two years ago, to Hughson's house with Kip's Samuel, who has been dead

two years, and bought a quart of rum, and went with it to Mr. Bayard's.

3. That Comfort's Jack, about Christmas last, informed him first of the plot: Jack met him by his gate and told him of it, and appointed him to meet him at Hughson's, that he went to Hughson's; was there the Sunday the feast was, as mentioned by the witnesses in court.

4. Has been twice at Hughson's and once at Comfort's.

5. Was to be a captain, and was sworn; that many negroes were present, and all sworn and consented.

6. Agreed to the circumstances told of the plot in general; Spanish negroes were there; Furman's Harry, Moore's Cato, all the prisoners who were tried with him were there; Ben. Moore's Tom and Mink there, Gabriel Crooke's Prince there, Ben and Quash there.

7. Hughson, his wife and daughter swore first, then those who were at the upper end of the table, near Hughson, swore upon the book, and the others at a distance without book, by thunder, &c.

8. He agreed to set his master's house on fire, but said he would not do it until he saw somebody else begin, and then he would; he was to kill his mistress: went to Hughson's just after church out.

9. That he believed that meeting was about six weeks before the fort burnt.

10. London [his fellow slave] was to be a private man under him.

11. Comfort's meeting was two weeks after this: at Comfort's he and Kip's Harry were in the shop, about twenty there; Gabriel Crooke's Prince there, London there, Marshal's Ben there, Hermanus's Quash; Jack went backwards and forwards from the shop to the kitchen, Furman's Harry there.

12. Hughson proposed to them to get as many other negroes in as they could.

13. Mr. Moore's Cato, Shurmur's Cato, at Comfort's; he did not go into the kitchen, but heard that a great many were there.

14. Hughson told them at his house, that the Spaniards knew better than York negroes how to fight, and they were all to stand by one another and assist the French and Spaniards, they were to wait for them some time, if they did not come, they were to do all themselves.

15. Every one in the shop [at Comfort's] had knives, and they were sharpening of them; and they where to cut white men's needs off.

Confession of London, negro of Marschalk's.—He said,

1. That what was said against him at the trial yesterday, was true.

2. Captain Marshall's Ben came to him and told him, that his master's negro York, wanted him at the white man's house (Hughson's) by the waterside, he went there, this was of the Sunday that they eat; Moore's Cato, Pintard's Cæsar, &c. six Spanish negroes there, the room full of negroes; when they had done eating, the white man bring the book to swear; the table was not big enough for them all to sit down at, so that some forced to stand; the Spaniards sat altogether next to Hughson: when they had done eating, Hughson said the country was not good, too many gentlemen here, and made negroes work hard, they must set fire to their masters' houses, and when they came out they must get their guns, swords and knives, in two or three weeks the Spaniards and French would be here.

3. That when the business was done, he would put them in a ship, and carry them into their own country.

4. Those that stood next to Hughson put their hands on a book, swore and kissed it; those who were on the other end of room did not swear on the book, but swore without.

5. That Hughson said he must set his master's stable on fire, and he consented and agreed to do it; and York told him he must kill his master, to which he said yes; York told him, that his master love him (London) better than him (York.)

6. That one or two weeks after he was at Comfort's, York, a little young negro belonging to a shoemaker in Pearl-street, near opposite to Mr. Breastead's, and Crooke's Prince were there; that Ben came to his (London's) house one morning between four and five, and took a coal of fire out of the bakehouse, and said he would go and set his master's stable on fire, and bid him (London) fire his master's house; this a week after Philipse's storehouse set on fire.

7. York was in the shop, and he in the kitchen at Comfort's; Jack brought the knives; but he said he had a knife and could get a sword: Jack looked like a gentleman. Jack told him he bought the knives of a Spanish negro.

8. The general talk at Comfort's was to the same effect as that at Hughson's, viz. to burn the houses and kill the people; they said they agreed, and swore to do this as long as the white man stand by them.

9. Did not see Sandy; saw five or six Spanish negroes there.

MONDAY, JUNE 22.

Confession of Pompey (Mr. Peter De Lancey's) before one of the judges.—He said,

1. That Sam, negro belonging to Mr. Courtlandt at Yonkers, some time last fall, carried him to Hughson's to drink some punch; when they came there, Sam asked him, before Hughson, whether he would join with them about what they designed to do? he asked them what that was? he answered, when you say yes, I will tell you what it is; then he said yes; then Sam said they intended to burn the houses and kill the white people; he told them he would stand to it: then Hughson fetched the book and made him put his hand on it, and he said, he wished he might never stir from the place if he did not stand to help them, and the d—l d—n him if he did not.

2. That before he put his hand on the book, Hughson told him there was a great many negroes concerned in this plot, and that they intended to burn the fort first, then Gerardus Comfort's house, and so round the town, and to kill the people.

3. That Hughson asked him if he could get guns, swords, or pistols from his master; and he told him no, his master locked up all those things; Hughson then said, if he could not get any, that he would find him some.

4. That Curacoa Dick told him, that the Spaniards could fight better than the York negroes.

5. That Rutgers's Quash, Pintard's Cæsar, Colonel Moore's Cato, Shurmur's Cato, Lowe's Sam, Albany, Tickle, Auboyneau's Prince, Philipse's Cuffee, Vaarck's Cæsar, Ward's Will, Captain Lush's Will, all spoke to him about the plot, and B. Moore's Tom, Breastead's Jack, and English's Patrick all told him they were concerned in it; and Jay's Brash, upon his (Pompey's) asking him whether he had heard what the negroes were about, answered that Pintard's Cæsar told him of it.

6. That he (Pompey) asked Soumain's Tom whether he would be concerned; told him (Tom) that he had been down at Hughson's with Sam, Courtlandt's negro, and that Hughson and the negroes were going to burn the town and the fort, and to kill the white people, and that he himself was sworn in the plot; and Tom consented that he would be concerned, but he never talked to Tom any other time about it, and knows not whether he was ever sworn, or spoke to any body else about it; this discourse between Tom and him was a fortnight before Christmas.

7. That Mrs. Stillwell's Pero spoke to him about it last winter ; Hermanus Rutger's Jacob likewise.

8. Othello, chief justice's negro, spoke to him about it last winter, and said he was concerned.

9. That he spoke to Pompey, Mr. Samuel Bayard's negro, and told him he was concerned in the plot, and was sworn at Hughson's, and Bayard's Pompey told him that he would be concerned.

10. He spoke likewise to Mrs. Gilbert's Pompey about it, and he agreed he would be concerned ; likewise to Mr. Cruger's Deptford, and he said he would be concerned ; and Mr. Henry Cruger's Hanover, and he agreed.

11. Chief justice's Othello said he would be a captain.

12. That he likewise spoke to Cato, the new brewer's negro, at the other end of the town, and he agreed to be concerned, but don't know whether any of those went to Hughson's, and were sworn.

Col. Cortlandt's negro Sam, was immediately apprehended, and confronted with Pompey, but he denied all, and was committed.

Confession of alderman Pintard's negro Cæsar, before one of the judges.—He said,

1. That last fall, soon after the Cuba men were gone, Vaarck's Cæsar carried him down to Hughson's, and there asked him in the presence of Hughson, Rutgers' Quash, Marshall's Ben, Kip's Harry, Tickle and Albany, whether he would join along with them to fight the white people, and Hughson asked him whether he would burn his master's house ? to which he answered, he would help to fight the white people, but he would not burn his master's house ; Hughson replied every negro had engaged to burn his master's house, as well as kill the white people, and why could not he do so as well as they ; but he told Hughson he would not set any man's house on fire, that he would only fight and kill the white people.

2. That then Hughson brought a book like a common prayer book, and swore him that he should not speak of what they had agreed upon to any one but those concerned with them, and that he was to do what he had engaged himself to, upon pain of damnation forever ; Hughson all the time holding the book in his hand, and made him kiss it.

3. That Marshall's Ben, Vaarck's Cæsar, and Hughson were to find guns and swords.

4. That Hughson, after his swearing, put his name down on a picce of paper, and told him he must get as many more negroes as he could ; but said he never spoke to any but

Brazier's Tony, York (shoemaker's in Pearl.street) Provost's Cato, Cowley's Cato, both hanged, Vaarck's Bill, who told him he had sworn already, Gabriel Crooke's Prince, Van Horne's Bridgewater, Teneyck's Bill, whom he carried to Hughson's and saw him sworn, captain Roger French's London, whom he also carried to Hugason's and saw him sworn, Vanderspeigle's Fortune, hanged, Wyncoop's London (Indian) Curacoa Dick, Peck's Caesar, Benson's Mars, Breasted's Jack, De Brosse's Primus, Roosevelt's Quack, another negro of Peck's.

5. That those beforenamed, which he did not carry to Hughson's to be sworn, he carried to Comfort's, on the Sunday the general meeting of the negroes there, about a fortnight or three weeks before the fort burnt, and there they all swore to fire the town, some to burn their own master's house, and all to kill the white people ; they all swore before Comfort's Jack, and he made report to Hughson, who put their names down in a list.

6. That he knew Mr. Moore's Cato was concerned in the plot about a week before the supper at Hughson's ; Cato was at the entertainment ; he was to have been there himself, but was stopped by the watch as he was going.

7. That he carried Jack, Comfort's to Hughson's to be sworn.

Evidence affecting this negro.—Peggy's examination, No. 1, May 9. Sawney's examination, No. 3, § 8, June 1. Jack, (Sleydell's) examination, § 1, June 12. Pompey (De Lancey's) examination, § 5, June 22.

Confession of Cato, colonel Moore's negro, before one of the judges.

He said, 1. That the first that spoke to him about the conspiracy, was Harmanus Rutgers's Quash and Ben, by capt. Marshall's stable, about a fortnight after Christmas, of a Sunday morning ; they asked him to go down to Comfort's with them after church out in the evening, for that there was to be company there.

2. That they told him that the negroes were going to rise against the white people, and asked him to join with them ? he told them at first he was not willing, he had no occasion for it, for he lived well : Quash made answer, that he himself lived as well or better than he ; and Ben said so did he ; but it was a hard case upon the poor negroes, that they could not so much as take a walk after church-out, but the constables took them up ; therefore in order to be free, they must set the houses on fire,

and kill the white people ; and Ben asked him to set his master's house on fire ; he told him then he was not willing to do that : they asked him to come down to Comfort's after church in the evening, which he did ; there was rum there, and he drank a dram ; but he did not see Jack this first time : the negroes he then saw at Comfort's were Ben, Quash, Chambers' Robin, Peck's Cæsar, Cook, Marschalk's York and London, Shurmur's Cato, Crooke's Prince, Shoemaker's York, Crooke's York, Lowe's Sam, widow Fortune's Cuffee, Van Horne's Bridgwater, Bound's Scipio, Cowley's Cato, Vanderspeigle's Fortune, Provost's (hanged) Cato, Kip's Harry. The same sort of talk passed there as above mentioned ; but they did not all very well agree at that time.

3. That about a fortnight afterwards, on a Sunday, he went with Pintard's Cæsar, in order to meet with Albany, Tickle, Curacoa Dick and Bosch's Frank, and they went down to Hughson's one after another ; when they came there, they went into a room where were Hughson, his wife and daughter, but the latter did not stay in the room ; Hughson brought them drams, which they paid for ; and he talked to them about the plot for burning the houses of the town, and killing the white people ; and told them there were several companies of negroes to be made up, and asked if they would be concerned ; and some agreed at that time ; but he and Pintard's Cæsar did not, they came out of the house together after staying about half an hour.

4. That the Sunday after this, he went to Hughson's again with Albany, and Hughson carried Albany and him up stairs, and swore them upon a bible, after having told them that there were a great many concerned in this plot ; that they had agreed to rise against the town, to murder the people ; some to murder their masters and mistresses, and to burn their houses, and proposed to him to do the same, and destroy the whole family ; which he was unwilling to agree to at first, but at last consented, and then he was sworn and kissed the book ; and Albany consented to kill his mistress and the rest of the family, and to burn her house ; and was sworn in the same manner : that the purport of the oath was, that they were to keep all secret, and to perform what they had severally engaged to do ; and if they failed therein, they were to be damned forever.

5. That on another Sunday evening about a fortnight or three weeks after that, he went to a supper at Hughson's according to his invitation.

6. That the last time he met Marschalk's York by Mr. De

Lancey's, as he was going ; when he came there there were a great number of negroes, he believes forty or fifty, among which were Fortune's Cuffee, Lowe's Sam, Bound's Scipio, Cha. Crooke's York, Van Horne's Bridgwater, Ward's Will, G. Crooke's Prince, Kortrecht's Cæsar, Horsefield's Guy : that he did not sit down at the table where Hughson, his wife and daughter sat, but at a side-table with several others : after supper Hughson talked to them about the plot ; they were all to be true to one another, to keep secret, and to perform what they had engaged to do : and Hughson had a book, and swore several upon it, and made them kiss it ; but those that were at a distance, swore without book.

7. That the Sunday fortnight after that, he went to Comfort's, where were, he believes, about forty negroes, where they talked of the plot to the same purpose, and swore. There were Quash, Ben, Fortune's Cuffee, Wyncoop's Indian London, captain French's London, Brazier's Tony, Horsefield's Guy, Duane's Prince.

8. That Vaarck's Cæsar (hanged) told him David Provost's Low was concerned in the plot, and that he was at Hughson's, at that supper on the Sunday, but don't remember he saw him there.

Evidences affecting this negro.—Peggy's examination, No. 1. May 9. Sawney's examination, No. 1. § 12. May 22. No. 3. § 8. June 1. Sarah (Burk's) examination, No. 2. § 5. June 1. Cæsar (Pintard's) examination, § 6. June 22. York (Marschalk's) confession, § 6. June 20. Pompey (De Lancey's) confession, § 5. June 22. Jacob (Rutgers') confession, June 24. Dundee's confession, § 9. June 24.

Confessions of several negroes, before one of the judges.

Harry (Furman's) said Ben (alderman Bayard's) that goes to sea, was concerned in the plot ; that Jack was shaving Harry at Comfort's, and said he could set his master's bakehouse on fire, and might be at work in it, and his master would not know he did it ; he say no ; his master do him good : that Jack said he would cut his throat if he did not agree to it ; then Harry said if he would set his master's house on fire first, then he'd set his.

Evidence affecting this negro.—Jack (Comfort's) confession, § 31, 32. June 8. Fortune (Latham's) confession, June 15. York (Marschalk's) § 6. June 20.

Quamino (Pemberton's) said he was sworn at Hughson's by him ; he clapped his hand upon a book ; there were present, Rowe's Tom, Albany, Ticklepitcher, Vaarck's Cæsar ; John (Van Dam's) was in the house when he came, but immediately went away.

Evidence affecting this negro.—Tickle's confession, § 2, June 12. Tom (Rowe's) confession, July 2.

Varian's Worcester said that Leffert's Pompey first spoke to him to be concerned in the plot about Christmas last; that he was at the supper at Hughson's, and was then sworn; Hughson, his wife and daughter swore first, and then the negroes, and he consented that he would join with them in burning houses and killing the people; Hughson told him, after the negroes had killed the white men, they were to marry the gentlewomen.

Evidence affecting this negro.—Quack (Roosevelt's) confession at the stake, § 4, May 30. Tickle's confession, § 4, June 12.

Upon the several confessions taken this day, the following negroes were apprehended and committed to jail.

Lowe's Sam, Brazier's Tony, Van Horn's Bridgwater, French's London, Provost's Low, Wyncoop's London, Crooke's York, Widow Fortune's Cuffee, Bound's Scipio.

SUPREME COURT.

TUESDAY, JUNE 23.

Present, the second justice.

The King against Furman's Harry, Pemberton's Quamino, Varian's Worcester, negroes.

The prisoners desired leave of the court to withdraw their plea of *not guilty*, and to plead *guilty*; leave was given accordingly, and they pleaded *guilty*, and submitted to the mercy of the court.

Court adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Deposition.—This day Stephen Evan, of Westchester county, made oath before one of the judges, that being at Jamaica, on Long-Island, about a year ago, a negro man called Will, belonging to Johannes Hardenbergh, Robin (Justice Willet's) and Jack (Dorland's) negroes were at a house where he (the deponent) was, and that he heard Will say to Robin, what think you of Corlaer's Hook⁽ⁿ⁾ or of the plot? D—n it, replied Robin, I'll have nothing to say to it; if they burn their backsides, they must sit down on the blisters, but said further, let them go on and prosper.

(n) A point of land at the east end of the city of New-York, almost opposite Long-Island Ferry.

That this deponent urged very hard to know what they meant; one of them (he thought it was Robin) said it was a plot, and that if it went on, he (the deponent) should hear more of it, and could do no less than hear of it, but would then say no more about it, for fear of bringing himself in.

Confession of Sterling (Mr. S. Lawrence's negro) before one of the judges.—He said

1. That he was one concerned in the plot for burning and destroying this city and murdering the inhabitants, and that Hughson swore him upon a book, and made him put his hand upon it and kiss it; and the purport of the oath was, that he should not tell any white people of it, and that he was to do what he promised to do, that is to say, to fire his master's house, and kill his master and mistress, &c. Hughson's wife was in the room when sworn.

2. That Albany and Tickle carried him thither and there opened the plot to him, Hughson put a flask of rum upon the table, and after making him drink, asked him if he would not help to kill the white people and burn the town? he answered yes; then Hughson swore him, and put his name on a paper.

3. That Abrahamse's Scipio came down there the same time, and he saw him sworn; this was about Whitsontide was twelve months.

4. That Albany told him, that they were to wait until the winter almost over, and then the wind blew hard, they were to begin to set fire and burn the fort.

5. That when the governor had forbid Quack coming to the fort last summer, Quack declared that he would burn the fort; Quack and Comfort's Jack came into Hughson's the same day after he (Sterling) was sworn, and there he heard him say this before Albany, Tickle, the said Comfort's Jack, and Hughson.

Evidence affecting this negro.

Tickle's examination and confession, 12th June.

The following supposed to be calculated for a confession, was found amongst the papers, indorsed June, without the particular day; and it is thought to have been after the proclamation of the 19th; because as we understood, Quack until that time stoutly denied that he knew any thing at all of a conspiracy, therefore it is here placed.

The confession of Walter's Quack (negro) by an unknown hand—No. 1.

That about fourteen days before Roosevelt's Quack came to prison, he and Hermanus Rutgers' Quash were in the wood-yard, and called a negro man (of a Sunday morning) in, belong-

ing to Mr. Leffert, named Pompey; they asked him if he would do as they would do? he answered, what is that? if you will do as we will, we will tell you: he would.

Quash proposed if he (Pompey) would set his master's house on fire, that he (Quash) would set his master's house on fire, and Quack was to set his master Mr. Roosevelt's house on fire, likewise Mr. Vanderheul's house. Pompey said they might do as they would, if they did it he would not tell, and likewise said he would set his master's house on fire. They Quack and Quash promised him (Pompey) if he would do as he had promised (that is to set fire to his master's house) they would assist him to escape, and be the means of making him free.

By this confession, if it may be so called, Quack steers clear of charging himself with any privity to the general conspiracy; he intimates no more by it, than he overheard this discourse between the three negroes he there mentions, importing a conspiracy between them to set those particular houses on fire; Quack does not say he was in company with them, nor where he was. If this was his own inditing, Quack was no fool; if it was provided for him, he was not very wise that furnished him with it.— But Quack was for coming off as cheap as he could.

This day the following negroes were apprehended and committed upon the foregoing confessions and examinations, viz. Bayard's Pompey, Gilbert's Pompey, Soumain's Tom, Cruger's Deptford, Benson's Cato, Rutgers' Jacob.

SUPREME COURT.

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 24.

Present the second and third justices.

Court opened and adjourned to four o'clock in the afternoon.

P. M. Present, as before.

Court opened and adjourned till 10 o'clock to-morrow morning.

Confession of H. Rutgers' Jacob (negro) before one of the judges.—He said,

That some time before Christmas last he was carried to Hughson's by Roosevelt's Quack, where he gave him a dram, and told him that they were about a plot, they were going to kill the white people and burn the city, and asked him if he would be concerned? that he was frightened at first, but Quack bid him

not be afraid there was no body should hurt him ; and by that time they had drank out half a pint of rum, he agreed to join with them, and he swore to Quack that he would not tell any body of it, but that he would do as he said. He did not see Hughson or his wife, only a young woman in the house, which he took to be his daughter ; but he did not go into the house.— Has talked to Mr. Moore's Cato about the plot, but no body more, and knows of no other persons concerned.

Evidence affecting this negro.

Pompey (De Lancey's) confession, § 7. 22d June.

Confession of Todd's Dundee (negro) taken by a private hand.

No. 1.—He said,

1. That for three summers past he had fetched water at Comfort's ; that in the winter, by his master's order, he fetched it from the fort ; that some time before the officers arrived for the Cuba expedition, he was at Comfort's for water, in the afternoon ; that Jack asked him to come into the house to play papa ; Jack, Cook, Jenny (Comfort's negroes) and he (Dundee) played about two half-hours, that Jack won about two shillings in pennies of him, that after Jack had won the money he asked him to go and drink, and carried him to Hughson's, when they came there Jack called for a pint of rum, which Hughson's wife brought and Jack made punch ; that he (Dundee) got almost drunk, and Jack helped him up with the water, and that he heard nothing that time about the plot.

2. The second time, being the next afternoon, he was at Hughson's, in company with Jack and Cook (Comfort's negroes) that he called for a half pint of rum, that Hughson brought it, that Mrs. Hughson came in and asked Jack whose boy that was ? Jack told her Mr. Todd's, and said never fear him, he is a good boy ; Hughson then asked him (Dundee) his name, he told him Dundee, Hughson said stay a little while till I fetch a book, that Hughson was gone about two minutes before he brought the book, that he did not tell him it was a bible ; Hughson asked him his name a second time, to which he answered as before ; that Hughson and Jack told him he must lay his hand on the book, he asked them for what ? they told him he must swear to help them set fire to houses, and that he would tell no body of it ; that he swore the d—I fetch him, and the d—I d—n him if he did ; that then he asked what he was to do ? they told him, he must set his master's house on fire, that the fort was to be burnt first, and that Quack was to do it, that he must help burn the rest of the houses and destroy the people, to all which he consented ; that Jack was to be head captain, and he (Dundee) low-

er captain, that he was to cut his mistress's throat in the night, because she scolded him when he stayed of an errand, or if he did not mind his business.

3. That Comfort's Jack was to kill Mr. Todd, because he once followed Dundee to Comfort's house when he went for tea-water, and made a noise at him for staying.

4. Jack told him he must bring wine in the cask as often as he came there for water, he answered he had no opportunity, or else he would.

5. Jack told him there were too many guns in the fort, so they were to burn that first; that they were to burn the fort on St. Patrick's day, and Dundee was to fire his master's house the same evening after the fort was destroyed, but was afraid lest he should be caught and hanged.

6. That when the whole city was on fire, they were all to meet together, and destroy the people as fast as they came out; they were to have penknives to cut their throats, which Jack was to provide for them; that Jack offered him a knife, but he said he would buy one.

7. That the third time he was there, Patrick (Mr. English's negro) was with him; Patrick said to Cook, you have not forgot what I told you of; no, says Cook, I hope not yet. Dundee overheard their discourse.

8. That Jack was at work in the shop, but his young master was there, and so they could not speak together.

9. That the day the fort was burnt, Patrick, Dundee, and Mr. alderman Moore's Cato was on the mount; that Dundee said he was sorry the governor's house was burnt; Patrick said he was not, but that he wished the governor had been burnt in the middle of it; that Cato was not present then, but came just after, and said by and by this will be put in the news that the fort's burnt, and then the Spaniards will come and take us all.

Confession of London, (Mr. French's negro) taken before his master by a private hand.

1. He said that when the forces were raised to go to Cuba, he worked on board Captain Bayard's vessel; that he was sent ashore for water, and that he went to Comfort's; that Jack asked him if he would be one of them? The prisoner asked him, one for what? Jack told him that the negroes were going to rise in a body to take this country, to fire the houses and kill the people; he answered, he was going to sea with his master, and that he could not; Jack told him, if he would consent, he would set his name down with the rest; he answered, that if he did not go to sea, he would help them to do what they proposed. Jack

asked him to swear, which he did ; which oath was, that he wished thunder might strike him down if he did not help them, in case his master did not go out to sea.

2. That the prisoner fetched sand some where near Comfort's this spring, and again saw Jack, who asked him if he remembered his promise, and would stand to it ? he answered yes ; Jack told him they were to set fire in the Broadway, and that he (the prisoner) should set his master's storehouse on fire in Newstreet, which the prisoner consented to.

3. That Jack told him there was a house near by where they would provide arms, and what was necessary, and that he would find for him what he wanted.

4. That when the city was on fire, the negroes were to meet at the end of the Broadway next to the fields.

Evidence affecting this negro.

Cæsar (Pintard's) confession, § 4. June 22. Cato (Moore's) confession, § 4. June 22.

Intimation having been given for some time past, that there had of late been Popish priests lurking about the town, diligent inquiry had been made for discovering them, but without effect ; at length information was given, that one Ury alias Jury, who had lately come into this city, and entered into partnership with Campbell, a school-master, pretending to teach Greek and Latin, was suspected to be one, and that he kept a private conventicle ; he was taken into custody this day, and not giving a satisfactory account of himself, was committed to the city jail.

Confession of Jack (J. Tiebout's negro) before alderman Bancker.

He declared that in Easter holidays Ward's negro Will desired him to drink a dram with him at Mrs. Wendell's, and also desired him to make him two or three sticks of about three foot long, and an hole of about twelve inches bored in them, which was to make a light that no body should see it, because Mr. Van Horn would not allow a candle : and afterwards he was in company with him again, and then told him Mr. Van Horn would not allow him to come to his wife, but before it was long he would shew him a trick, and that the negroes here were cowards ; for that they had no hearts as those at Antigua : and that Mr. Pintard's negro was a fool, for that he had undertaken a thing which he could not go through with ; for that he had given him the gun (that was found under the market) to take care of.(o)

(o) There was a gun found under the market by a soldier, not long after the fort was fired, and no owner for it discovered.

When Mr. Philipse's storehouse was extinguished, he said to him (Jack) he would sooner see all the houses burnt down to the ground, before he would lend a hand to it.

SUPREME COURT.

THURSDAY, JUNE 25.

Present, the second and third justices.

The King against Jamaica, a negro, and Sarah Hughson.

Ordered that the execution of these two criminals be respited until to-morrow seven-night.

The King against Wendover's Emanuel, English's Patrick, Jay's Brash, Breasted's Jack, Vaarck's Will alias Bill, Lush's Will, negroes.

The prisoners having been indicted for conspiring, &c. to burn the whole town and city of New-York, and to kill and destroy the inhabitants thereof, were arraigned, and pleaded *not guilty*.

The King against Peck's York, Duane's Prince, Van Borsom's Scipio, Latham's Tony, Provost's Low and Ward's Will, negroes.

The prisoners having been arraigned on the same indictment, York, Scipio and Will pleaded *guilty*, and Prince, Low and Tony pleaded *not guilty*.

The court adjourned till to-morrow morning 9 o'clock.

Deposition of Mary Burton, taken before one of the judges.
No. 4.—Mary Burton being duly sworn, deposed,

1. That the person yesterday shewn to her in prison, lately taken into custody on suspicion of being a Roman Catholic priest, is the same person she has often seen at the house of John Hughson; that to the best of her recollection she saw him there first, some time about Christmas last, and that then for a fortnight together he used to come there almost every night, and sometimes used to lie there, but was always gone in the morning before she the deponent got up, but she well remembers he used to go by different names, but whether by the name of Jury or Ury, or Doyle, she cannot now depose positively, but to the best of her remembrance, some of his names consisted only of one syllable, and believes she has heard him called by all the said three names.

2. That after the said fortnight, she believes the said person did not come to Hughson's for about a week, that then he used

to come again frequently almost every night, until the time of the stealing of Hogg's goods ; he used to strip himself and go to bed as if he was to lie there all night, but was always gone in the morning when this deponent got out of bed.

3. That when he came to Hughson's he always went up stairs in the company of Hughson, his wife and daughter, and Peggy, with whom the negroes used to be at the same time consulting about the plot ; and that she has often heard Hughson, the rest of the white people, and the negroes talk in the presence of the said Jury about setting fire to the houses and killing the white people of this city, and has often, when such conversation was going on, seen the said Jury alias Ury, whispering to Hughson, his wife, &c. and the negroes, which she understood to be joining in the conspiracy with them, she thought it looked very like it, though she cannot say she ever heard him speak out, but said she esteemed his actions and behaviour to signify his approbation and consent to what was carrying on by the company, touching this conspiracy, and this not one time in particular, but a great many.

4. That the conspirators before mentioned generally went into a room above stairs to hold their consultations, and the deponent (being a servant in the house) used often to go into that room to carry such things as they wanted, and often came in upon them at such seasons, when (as she believes) they would rather have excused her appearance, for she has observed that her coming in has sometimes made Jury uneasy, that they used generally to call up Mary Hughson the daughter, to bring what they wanted ; but when she was out of the way, the deponent used to go up. She believes the said Mary was likewise in their secrets ; never heard her say any thing of the plot, but has heard the rest talk of it often before her the said Mary.

5. That Hughson, his wife, daughter Sarah, and Peggy, and the said Ury, when this deponent has come into the room amongst them to bring what they wanted, have several times turned out all the negroes present, and then have all joined in tempting this deponent to take an oath ; but upon her asking them for what ? they would not tell her, but said she must swear first, and then they would tell her, but this she absolutely denied over and over ; at which refusal they were angry, and turned her out of the room, and Ury said to her, had not you better swear and go fine, than go as she did ; for they all (the Hughsons, Peggy and Jury, had when they proposed to swear her) offered her silks, and a deal of fine things, if she would comply with their requests, and Peggy said she was a great fool if she did not.

6. That about a fortnight or three weeks before Hogg's goods were stolen, she has observed Campbell (with whom she has heard Jury used to keep school) come to Hughson's of a Sunday, sometimes one Garrit Van Emborough with him, and that Campbell used to go into the room below with the Hughsons, Peggy, and Cæsar, Prince and Cuffee (negroes) and when these were met, the Hughsons used to turn the deponent up stairs; but she cannot say she ever heard them talking of the plot before Campbell, but she strongly suspected that he knew of it, from his keeping company with the Hughsons, and the said three negroes, whom she looked upon to be the principal heads of the negroes in the conspiracy.

7. That during the time there was snow upon the ground all last winter, she has often known Hughson to go out of town a-days, upon the pretence of fetching firewood from the commons, with his sleigh; and that he has not returned home till eight, nine, ten or eleven o'clock at night, at different times, and has brought negroes to town to his house, and that he has carried them back again in his sleigh after midnight, one, two or three o'clock, and has not returned home again sometimes till seven or eight o'clock in the morning.

8. That she has several times seen Mr. Peter De Lancey's Spanish negro Antonio at Hughson's, when he (Hughson) has come home late out of the woods, and that she has seen him many times get into Hughson's sleigh late in the night, and that Hughson has not returned home till six, seven or eight the next morning; but at that time this deponent did not know where the said Spanish negro lived, whether in town or country.

9. That one day at Hughson's, some of the negroes had behaved rudely towards her, and being in a passion, she was provoked to swear at them, in the presence of Jury alias Ury, above mentioned, and upon recollecting herself she said, God forgive me; whereupon the said Jury answered her, that was a small matter; he could forgive her a great deal more sins than that; that was nothing.

10. That at another time when the negroes had provoked her, she wished those black toads at the devil; oh, says Jury, let them be black, or what they will, the devil has nothing to do with them; I can forgive them their sins, and you yours too.

Confession of London, a Spanish Indian (Wynkoop's) before one of the judges.

1. He said that last Whitsuntide was twelve months, on the Monday afternoon, he went out and met in the street, Peter Low's Sam, Obadiah Hunt's Warwick, Mrs. Ellison's Billy; that they

asked him to go and drink beer at a house, and Billy said he would carry him to a house that belonged to his mistress, and that he carried them all to Hughson's; that they called for beer and cider; that Hughson himself brought it; that himself and two others had but three pence a-piece about them; that Billy told them he would make up the rest; they had four mugs; that the prisoner was almost drunk; that he had drunk rum at a house before he came there; that Hughson sat down and drank with them, and talked for some time, and that he went out for a book which he brought; that he told them they must keep secret that he sold liquor to negroes; that they must not tell any thing they saw or heard at his house; that if they would swear to keep secret his proposal, they should always have liquor at his house; that they had better suffer death than tell any body; that they all agreed to what Hughson said, and did swear and kissed the book; that Hughson had a list on which he set their names; that Hughson was to provide guns, swords and knives; that he told them the fort should burn first, and that when they saw that, all the negroes should set fire to their master's houses, and that as fast as the people run out, they should stab the first they met with, and kill as many as they could.

2. That some time after the prisoner was at Comfort's, Jack asked him, whether he knew not what some negroes were going to do? yes, yes says the prisoner, I know well enough. Jack told him he must be sure not to tell any body, nor make any talk about it: for said he, they know it as well as we. The prisoner has talked with Sam and Warwick about it in the street sometimes when he met them. The prisoner was to burn his master's house, and to shoot or stab his master before he came out. Hughson was to find guns, powder, balls, knives, and every thing they wanted; Hughson told them he was to be governor.

Evidence affecting this negro.

Confession of Pintard's Caesar, § 4, June 22. Confession of colonel Moore's Cato, § 7, June 22. Confession of Ten Eyck's Dick, June 30. Confession of Hunt's Warwick, July 1.

Confession of Brash, Mr. Peter Jay's negro, taken before one of the judges.

He said, that about this time twelve months, he and his old master's negro (Ben) had been down at the north river, hauling up timber from the waterside, in order to be carried to his master's garden there; and John Hughson had been helping them a little; and when he and Ben came to the garden, Ben

told him that Hughson had bid him ask him (Brash) to come to his house and drink.

2. That they went to Hughson's; and when they came there they were both carried up stairs, and there Hughson told them that about three days afterwards he was to have a large company of negroes, and would give them a supper; that they were going to rise against the town, to burn the houses and to kill the people; and Hughson asked them if they would be concerned with them? and after having drank, they both consented; then Hughson brought a book, and told them they must both swear that they would set their master's houses on fire, and murder their masters and mistresses; to which they both consented; put their hands on the book and kissed it: Hughson told them they must not tell it to any body but those that were concerned, who were to be there at night; that they were all to begin together; and Hughson said he would tell Ben, and Ben was to tell him; but he told Hughson he could not come to supper; nor did he go.

3. That a day or two after this, he and Mr. Murray's Jack went for tea-water to Comfort's, and he (Brash) carried Jack to Hughson's, and Hughson carried Jack up stairs, and swore him of this plot, who laid his hand upon the book and kissed it; and Jack agreed to burn his master's stable, his house, and to murder his master and mistress.

4. That he was at the great meeting at Comfort's on the Sunday about three weeks before the fort burnt, and was in the shop, where he saw Marschalk's two negroes, London and York, and many others; and Toby belonging to Breasted the cooper, next door to Kortrecht's.

5. That Hughson told him, if he could get any negroes to come in, he should bring them down to him; and that besides what before named, that he carried thither Fortune belonging to Mr. David Clarkson, Jack (mistake for Tom) young negro of Captain R. Livingston, Cajoe belonging to Mordecai Gomez, and Tom belonging to Hyer the cooper in Stone-street, and he saw them sworn.

6. That when Ben and he (Brash) were sworn at Hughson's, Hughson gave Ben a pistol to be carried to the gunsmith's to be mended, and told him, if any should ask whose it was, he should tell them it was his master's.

7. That Hughson told him and Ben, that they should get what guns, swords and pistols they could from their master's, and bring them to his house; but if they could not get any, that he could furnish them with them himself.

8. Confesses that he had a knife from Comfort's Cook, but he took it upon account of Ben, instead of pennies due from Cook to him, which Ben desired him to ask for.

Evidence affecting this negro.

Peggy's examination, No. 1, May 9. Sandy's examination, No. 3, § 8, June 1. Sarah (Burk's) examination, No. 3, June 5. Jack (Comfort's) examination, § 31, June 8. Pompey (De Lan-cey's) examination, § 5, June 22.

This day the following negroes were apprehended and committed as confederates in the conspiracy, viz.

Ellison's Billy, Mr. Clarkson's Fortune, Mr. Murray's Jack, Abrahamse's Scipio, Breasted's Toby, Hunt's Warwick, Meyers Cohen's Windsor.

SUPREME COURT.

FRIDAY, JUNE 26.

Present, the second and third justices.

The King against Wendover's Emanuel, English's Patrick, Jay's Brash, Breasted's Jack, Vaarck's Will alias Bill, Provost's Low, Lush's Will, Duane's Prince, Latham's Tony, negroes.

The seven first of the above negroes desired leave of the court to withdraw their plea of *not guilty*, and to plead *guilty*, which being granted, they pleaded *guilty*, and submitted to the mercy of the court.

The court then proceeded to the trial of Prince and Tony, upon the indictment for the conspiracy.

Jury called, and the following jurors sworn, viz. Isaac Van Dam, Cornelius Clopper, Josiah Milliken, Humphry Jones, James Tucker, Edward Man, Peter Fresneau, Patroclus Parmyter, Daniel Dunscomb, John Hunt, John Robins, John Van Gelder.

Mr. Murray and Mr. Chambers of counsel for the king.

Mr. Chambers opened the indictment, and proceeded to examine the witnesses.

Mary Burton called and sworn. She gave an account of the great meetings of the negroes at Hughson's, and the conspiracy carrying on there, as upon former trials; that arms were to be provided and kept by Hughson; that the fort was to be first burnt, and then the Fly and the whole town, and the people were to be murdered, and that this was the common talk betwixt the Hughsons and the negroes at such meetings, and they were

to begin to set fire about the time that Hogg's goods were stolen ; that she has seen the prisoner, Tony, there several times at those meetings, but cannot say she particularly heard him talk about the fires ; that he had been above stairs and came out of Peggy's window ; that she had seen the prisoner, Prince, there several times, and had heard him and other negroes together talk about the plot, to which he consented, and promised to do what he could to help them.

Cæsar (alderman Pintard's negro) said that he was to have been at the great supper at Hughson's, but was prevented by the constables ; but that he went there the next day, when Hughson told him Mr. Duane's Prince was there at supper, and was sworn, and was to burn his master's house, and that he had put him down.

Cato (Colonel Moore's negro) said he was at the great supper at Hughson's, when the prisoner, Prince, was there and was sworn, and he was to burn his master's house and kill his master ; that he was at the great meeting at Comfort's on a Sunday, saw Tony there amongst the negroes talking about the plot, and Tony consented.

Sandy said he was at Comfort's at the great meeting on a Sunday, when he saw Prince, the prisoner there, and he was sworn (amongst the rest) of the plot ; this was about a fortnight before the fort burnt.

Tickle said he was at the great supper at Hughson's ; that the prisoner, Prince, was there and was sworn of the plot amongst many others ; and that Tony and his fellow servant, Fortune, were to kill their master, burn his house, and bring the goods to Hughson's.

Jack (Sleydall's) said that he was at the great supper at Hughson's after Christmas, and saw the prisoner, Tony, there, and he was sworn of the plot, and agreed to burn the houses and kill the white people.

The prisoners asked the witnesses no material questions ; upon their defence they only denied what had been testified against them.

And the evidence being summed up, and the jury charged, they withdrew, and soon returned and found the two prisoners *guilty*.

Court adjourned till four o'clock in the afternoon.

SUPREME COURT.

FRIDAY, JUNE 26.

Present, the second justice.

The King against T. Horsefield's Guy, Thompson's York, Low's Sam, Bound's Scipio, C. Crooke's York, Brazier's Tony, Wyncoop's London, Horsefield's Cæsar, negroes.

The prisoners having been indicted for conspiring to burn the town, &c. were arraigned, and all severally pleaded *guilty*, and submitted themselves to the mercy of the court.

The King against Soumain's Tom, H. Rutgers's Jacob, Gilbert's Pompey, J. Cruger's Deptford, Benson's Cato, S. Bayard's Pompey, Courtlandt's Sam, negroes.

The prisoners Tom, &c. having been indicted for the said conspiracy, were brought to the bar and arraigned, and Tom, Jacob, Pompey (Gilbert's) and Deptford pleaded *guilty*, and Cato, Pompey (S. Bayard's) and Sam pleaded *not guilty*.

Court adjourned to Monday morning 8 o'clock.

Confession of Soumain's Tom, by a private hand.—He said,

1. That some time last summer after the Cuba forces were gone from York, he went in company with Mr. Rutgers's Quash and Mr. Roosevelt's Quack to Hughson's, that it was on a Sunday morning, and that Quack and Quash called for liquor, and that Hughson brought three half-pints of rum, and sat down and drank with them, but said nothing to him at that time, except to tell him, that he must come there again the next Sunday.

2. That the next Sunday morning he went again, and met with the same company, that they again called for rum, which Hughson brought, that he sat down in company with them, and after they had drank their liquor, Hughson asked the other two whether he (Tom) would join with them? the prisoner asked for what? Quash said to rise and burn down the town and kill the white people, that Quack said I myself intend to have the fort down before long, that they put a book upon his breast and forced him to swear, that Hughson told him he must wish the thunder to strike him down if he ever discovered it, that he repeated Hughson's words and kissed the book.

3. That Hughson asked the prisoner whether his master had guns, swords or cutlasses? he answered no, but that his master had sword blades, but said that he never carried any there.

4. That Hughson told him he must kill his master and all the family, and that he must burn the house; that he said his master

was too good to kill, but consented to kill any body else, and to do what other mischief he could.

5. That Hughson told him he must do this when he saw a great many houses on fire in the night, and great hurry and noise of the people, that he should come and join with the rest, that he must get a knife; to which he answered he would get a sword blade which would do better; that Hughson told him if he would come in the afternoon he might see a great number of negroes who were concerned. Said that he could not go out in the afternoon.

6. That he went a third time of a Sunday morning with the same company as before, and that they again drank rum, and had much the same discourse as the former, that Hughson was very earnest in the affair.

7. That once since he heard something of the negroes rising by Mr. De Lancey's Pompey, who came to Mr. Soumain's door and asked the prisoner whether he had heard any talk of the negroes rising? he answered not I; why, have you?

8. That Hughson told him, Quash and Quack, that after they had conquered, then they would know what it was to be free men, and then he would tell the prisoner what post he was to have.

Evidence affecting this negro.

Examination and confession of Jack, Mr. Murray's negro, before one of the judges.—He said,

1. That soon after new-year holidays he went to Comfort's to fetch tea-water, and as he was coming from thence he saw Vaarck's Cæsar standing at Hughson's door, who called to him to come thither, and when he came to the house he saw John Hughson in the entry, who asked him to come in, and he went in, and Cæsar followed him; and Hughson asked him to set his keg of tea-water down and stay there a little, but he (Jack) said that he could not stay; Hughson then told him that he had better carry his keg of tea-water home, and then return again and bring a gun and powder and bullets, and some negro with him, and then asked him to drink some punch, and he drank a small draught and was then going, but Hughson made him promise to come back, and said when he returned they would talk about a plot, and so he went away: there were present in the room at this time, Hughson, his wife and daughter, and Peggy, Vaarck's Cæsar, Walter's Quack, Pintard's Cæsar, old Mr. Jay's Ben, Auboyneau's Prince, Philipse's Cuffee, and the Chief Justice's Othello, and three Spanish negroes.

2. That as he was going home with the tea-water he met Adam, his fellow servant by old Mr. De Lancey's house, and he told Adam where he had been and what had been talked of, and what company was at Hughson's, as before mentioned; Adam thereupon ordered him to set his keg down, which he did, and gave it in charge to one of Mr. De Lancey's negro wenches, and said they would go down there and drink some punch, and they went accordingly.

3. When they came to Hughson's, they found the same company Jack had left, and the cloth was laid and the supper getting: he heard them talking when he came into the entry, of burning the houses and killing the white people, and of taking all the gentlewomen for their wives.

4. That when Adam and he came into the room, Hughson asked them whether they would do as they were going to do; which he said was to set the town on fire and to kill the white men and to keep the white women for their wives, to get all their master's guns and swords and pistols; and when their masters came to put out the fires to kill them all? Adam answered he would do the same, and he (Jack) said he would do the same: then Hughson carried Adam and him up stairs, and brought a book to swear them, but he (Jack) would not swear by the book, but kissed his hand and said he would stand to it, but Adam put his hand upon the book and kissed it, and said he would stand to it; then Hughson produced a paper, and said it was an agreement of the blacks to kill the white folks, and he put his (Jack's) and Adam's names down in it, as he (Jack) understood him.

5. That after this they went down stairs again to the rest of the company, and there they found two negro men a fiddling to them, before whom Hughson and the blacks talked of the like discourse: one fiddler belonged to Holt, named Joe, the other Kiersted's Braveboy; the negroes shook hands with Adam and him, and wished them joy, and Hughson did the like to them up stairs; and they all said they must keep every thing secret and stand to their words.

6. They said they expected the French and Spaniards here, and then they would fire and plunder the houses and carry all to Hughson's, who was to carry them off into another country, and make them a free people, but they were to stay about two months before they began to set fire, and then all of them were to begin at once.

7. That he (Jack) and Adam staid and eat some supper and drank some punch, and as soon as they had supped went home

together, and left the rest of the company behind: this meeting was of a Sunday evening.

8. That he (Jack) went afterwards to Hughson's several times as he went to fetch tea-water, and was there twice afterwards with Adam; that they always talked with Hughson and the negroes present about the plot, and when was the time to begin.

9. That Jay's Brash carried him (Jack) once to Hughson's, and another time Pintard's Cæsar; and that it was usual for them at such by-meetings to swear without book, that they all stand to their words and keep all secret.

10. That on Easter Sunday he (Jack) and Adam went down to Hughson's after church in the afternoon; he (Jack) was to go to Comfort's for tea-water; Adam went in before, and he (Jack) went to Comfort's and left his keg there, and soon followed him thither after he had filled his keg; and there they met with Walter's Quack, Pintard's Cæsar, Ward's Bill, Jay's Ben, Philippe's Cuffee, Auboyneau's Prince, Brash, Vaarck's Cæsar, Mrs. Sims's Billy, Albany, Othello, Hughson, his wife and daughter Sarah; and then John Hughson proposed to all the negroes last mentioned, and to him (Jack) and Adam, that they should meet at Mr. Murray's house that night, that he (Jack) was to be in the kitchen, and to open the back gate whereat all those negroes were to come in, and Adam and he were to come down stairs to them, and they were to proceed to set fire to the house, murder his master and mistress, and the white people in the house, but he was interrupted by Mrs. Dimmock's(q) accidentally coming down into the kitchen and sending him up to bed.

11. That after Mrs. Dimmock discovered him in the kitchen and sent him up to bed, a second time he came down again, went into the yard and opened the back gate, and staid in the yard half an hour, expecting the aforesaid negroes coming according to the appointment aforesaid; and they not coming after his waiting so long time, he (Jack) went up to Mr. Cruger's (the Mayor's) corner, and there saw Quack (Walter's) and the other negroes who had engaged to come to his master's house as before mentioned, but they said they could not come then, for they must go down to Hughson's; and he (Jack) returned home and went in at the kitchen window and there slept, and staid till the first cock-crowing, and then opened the kitchen door and fetched in wood to make the fire, intending thereby to make the family believe that he got up early and came down stairs to make it.

(q) Mr. Murray's house-keeper.

12. That Hughson at the same meeting proposed to the said negroes, that they should destroy Mr. Murray, Mrs. Murray and all the family with knives, and Hughson asked them all if they had got knives? and they all said they had, and pulled them out of their pockets; and Adam pulled out a long knife, and all the rest had long knives; but he (Jack) had a short one, which he calls a pen-knife, a clasped-knife which he eats his victuals with; he had seen Adam's before, he was whetting it one day upon the broad stones in the yard, and made it very sharp, and eat meat with it in his master's kitchen before all the servants; but he observed he generally kept it in his chest, and it was the same knife which was found upon the general search for stolen goods.^(r)

13. That when the snow was upon the ground, about Christmas last, he was at Hughson's, having been at Comfort's for tea-water, and Cæsar (Vaarck's) standing at Hughson's door, called him in to drink; Prince (Auboyneau's) Cuffee (Philipse's) Quack (Walter's) and Bill (Sims') were in the entry; Hughson called him (Jack) aside, and told him, after he (Jack) and Adam had murdered the whole family, that he (Jack) should steal the plate out of the beaufets, the kitchen furniture, wearing apparel, linen, guns, swords, and every thing that was of value, and bring them to his (Hughson's) house; that the aforesaid negroes should assist him to bring them, and that they should bury them under ground; Hughson and his wife were both together with him (Jack) when he received these directions. Jack was unwilling at first, but at length consented to undertake it.

14. That Adam was to kill his master and mistress, Mrs. Dimmock and her daughter; and that he (Jack) was to kill Cæsar, Congo and Dido(s) and after that they were to take the above mentioned goods and carry them to the place appointed, after which they were to return to the house and set fire to it, then go down again to Hughson's and make ready for the general attack.

15. That this proposal last above said was made by Hughson, before that of the Easter Sunday before mentioned,^(t) and that Adam was not present.

The following negroes were apprehended and committed upon the examination of yesterday and this day, viz.

(r) There was such a knife found in Adam's chest upon the general search.

(s) Three other of Mr. Murray's negroes.

(t) See § 10, of this confession.

Adam, Captain R. Livingston's Tom, Heyer's Tom, and Gomez's Cajoe.

This day also, Judy Pelham made oath before John Haight, esq. one of his majesty's justices of the peace for the Manor of Cortlandt, in the county of Westchester. That she heard Thomas Plumstead, a soldier, say about three months ago, that there would be bloody times in York before harvest, and that he must be in the middle of it, and that there would be no time granted to take leave of wives or children.

This the justice certified in a letter to a gentlemen in this place, but the fellow was not found.

SATURDAY, JUNE 27.

Examination and confession of Adam, negro of Joseph Murray, esquire, taken before one of the judges, No. 1.

1. He said that about last new-year was three years, there was a match of cock-fighting at the house of Adolph Philipse, esquire, in the evening, amongst the negroes, at which John Hughson (who then lived upon the dock next door to Silvester the cooper) was present, and the following negroes, viz.

Philipse's Cuffee, Vaarck's Cæsar, Auboyneau's Prince, Pintard's Cæsar, Duyckinck's York, Jay's Brash, Goelet's Quack, Roerback's Jack, Walter's Quack, Chief Justice's Othello, and Ventour, (Mr. Philipse's old negro man) and the old wench were in the cellar-kitchen, but saw them all there.

2. That the company broke up about eight o'clock, and as they were all going out of the gate, Hughson stopped him and asked him if he would join with him and the negroes, in what they were going about? Adam asked Hughson what that was? Hughson said they were going to set fire to the houses of the town, and to kill the white people; he answered that he would be concerned with them; then Hughson asked him to come to his house, and talk further upon it.

3. That accordingly he went to Hughson's house two or three days afterwards, and drank a bowl of punch with him there; Hughson having carried him up stairs, over their liquor the conversation ran upon the intended plot, and Hughson asked him several times, whether he would engage in it? and he as often answered him yes; but Hughson seemed to distrust him, and brought a book, which he took to be a common prayer book, and would have had him swear to it, but he refused to swear to it at

that time, and went away in half an hour: Hughson told him at the same time, that Vaarck's Cæsar, Philipse's Cuffee and Auboyneau's Prince, and a great many more were to be concerned with them.^(t)

4. That he used afterwards to go to Hughson's house whilst he continued to live upon the dock, and Hughson and he used to talk now and then about the intended plot, and Hughson used to say, he would find arms and powder, but desired he would get some too; to which Adam answered, he had no money to buy them. Hughson thereupon advised him to steal some for that purpose.

5. That about four or five days after drinking the bowl of punch as aforesaid, he met Cuffee (Philipse's) who said that Hughson had informed him that he (Adam) had engaged in the plot; Cuffee said that he had a key of his master's things, and he could come at what he pleased, and he could get some of his master's swords and guns; but he (Adam) being in haste, heard no more at that time.

6. That he has often seen Cuffee and Prince have plenty of money about them, silver and gold; Cuffee had once two doubloons, and offered to fight a cock for one of them; and Prince had once eight or nine Spanish dollars about him.

7. That soon after Hughson removed to his house at the north river,^(u) he, Adam, used to resort thither, and upon his inquiry concerning the plot, Hughson told him that several white men were concerned with him in it, and a great many negroes, and that he kept a list.

8. That soon after new-year holidays last, of a Sunday afternoon, (church just going out) he (Adam) was walking by old Mr. De Lancey's, and met Jack, his fellow servant, coming from Comfort's with a keg of tea-water; they stopped, and Jack told him he was just come from Hughson's, and that there was company there; Adam asked Jack to go back with him to drink a dram there, and they went there together; and when they came into the house, he saw there in company, Hughson, his

(t) If what this negro says is true, this hellish plot was some years a brooding before they attempted the execution of it: and those negroes last mentioned were some of the heads and principals of their colour that were concerned in it.

(u) He removed thither in May, 1738. This house was more out of the way, private and fit for Hughson's purposes on all accounts, for caballing and entertainment of negroes, and with respect to receiving stolen goods; it was said to be built with such privacies in the several rooms and cellars as might conceal run goods.

wife and daughter, and four or five white people more, (whose faces he believes he should remember if he saw them) and the following negroes, that is to say, Cæsar, (Pintard's) Cæsar (Vaarck's) Prince (Auboyneau's) Brash (Jay's) Pompey (P. De Lancey's) Hughson carried him and Jack into another room, and his wife and daughter came in there; Hughson swore him and Jack, and made them put their hands on a book, which he took to be a common prayer book, and made them kiss the book: the purport of the oath was, that they were to be true to those concerned in the plot; that they were to keep all secret, and perform what they had engaged to do; and if they discovered to any body, that they might be split with thunder and lightning: they were to murder their masters and mistresses, kill all the white people, and to burn the houses: after they were sworn, Hughson shook them by the hand and wished them much joy. (w)

9. That when Hughson first proposed the swearing, he was scrupulous about being concerned in the plot, and thought it was a great sin to do any such thing; but Hughson told him there was a man that he knew that could forgive him all his sins; whereupon he took the oath. And when Jack and he had drank their dram out, they came away together.

10. That after this meeting at Hughson's, he saw a little short man (x) four or five times at Hughson's, who used to teach school at Campbell's, who has just now been shewn him in prison, who Hughson told him was one of the two priests who could forgive sins; that he saw him twice in the room at Hughson's, whispering and talking with him, when many negroes were present; and he, Adam, then suspected that the little man knew of the plot, and was concerned in it; but does not remember that Hughson or the negroes talked out concerning the plot when that man was present: (y) Duane's Prince and Latham's Tony were there at the same time, and Cowley's Cato.

11. That he has heard Hughson and the negroes met at his house, talk of the plot when John Romme was present: that the first time Hughson proposed it to Romme to be concerned, as Cuffee (Philipse) told him (Adam) Romme seemed to decline it; but afterwards he promised to join with them, and seemed very forward for it.

(w) This agrees with Jack's account in the preceding examination, § 2, 3, 4, 5, and these negroes were examined apart, and had no opportunity of being or talking together after they were committed.

(x) John Ury the priest.

(y) This agrees with Mary Burton's deposition concerning Ury, No. 4, § 3. Thursday, June 25.

12. That he saw Holt, the dancing master, at Hughson's about new-year holidays, at a meeting of the negroes, and another white man belonging to him, whom they called doctor(z) and lodged at Holt's, whose name he knows not: there was likewise Holt's negro Joe with them; and the discourse amongst them was about the plot; and he, Adam, took Holt and the other white man to be concerned. At last he saw Hughson bring a book to swear them, and they laid their hands upon it, and Hughson pronounced the following words, or something to the same effect, that they should be true to one another, and aid and assist in the plot, and not discover any secrets; and then they kissed the book; and then Holt's negro Joe was sworn to the same purpose and in the same manner; and Holt commanded Joe that he should set fire to the play-house at such time as he should tell him: Holt's Joe had before this been telling him (Adam) that his master was concerned, was to be one of them, and would go down such a night to Hughson's to be sworn; and he asked him (Adam) to go down to see him sworn; which was the reason that carried him to Hughson's that night.

13. That Holt told Hughson, that he had guns of his own, and powder he said he had not enough: Hughson answered, he need not make himself uneasy about that, he had seven or eight barrels.

14. That Holt promised his man Joe to give him pistols, and asked him (Adam) whether his master had any arms? he, Adam, answered, he had some pistols; Holt advised him to get some, and he said he would, but powder he said he could not get: but both Hughson and Holt promised to supply him therewith.

15. That one of the four or five white men before mentioned to have been seen by him one time at Hughson's, was one of Hughson's brother's, a boatman (as he now recollects) he had a boat there; and he saw John Hughson give him a small box to put into it, to carry up the river.

16. That some time last summer, he, Adam, helped Quack (Walter's) ride his master's coach-horses out; and they came down to Hughson's and went into the house; and Hughson carried them up stairs, and swore Quack of the plot in the same manner, and the oath to the same purpose as Holt, &c. He, Adam, only went down there in order to drink a dram; and Hughson asked Quack to be concerned in the plot; and he directly answered yes, and was sworn as before; Hughson told him, that they were to burn the houses and kill the white peo-

(z) Hamilton, a pretended doctor who lodged at Holt's.

ple ; and Quack then undertook to burn his master's house and cut his throat ; and that Quack was as great a rogue as any of them.

17. That Holt's Joe told him (Adam) not once, but an hundred and an hundred times, that he, Adam, need not be afraid, for that his (Joe's) master was concerned in the plot ; and that he had spoke to Hughson for the biggest room he had there, to hold a free mason's lodge.(a)

18. That he has heard of the great feast of a Sunday evening at Hughson's, but was not there ; but believes it was a month or six weeks before the fort was burnt.

19. That he, Adam, was at a meeting at Comfort's, which he believes was about a fortnight after that at Hughson's last mentioned ; where were met a great number of negroes in the kitchen and shop ; he, Adam was in the shop : this was also of a Sunday afternoon church just out ; and there were present, his fellow-servant Jack, Marschalk's Diego, P. De Peyster's Pedro, Othello, Cæsar (Pintard's) Cato (colonel Moore's) Patrick (English's) Ben (Marshall's) Albany, and Kierstede's Braveboy : there they all talked about the plot ; but he, Adam, stayed but a little time.

20. That he had been acquainted with Quack (Walter's) from their childhood, used to play marbles together ; and that he has often talked with him about the plot, before the frolic in the Bowery-lane which Curacoa Dick told him of ; and he always seemed to be as active and forward in it as any body.

21. That one Sunday morning last summer, he and Pompey (P. De Lancey's) were taking a walk, and they met at a well by the new Dutch Church, Othello and Braveboy, who were both very drunk ; and Adam asked them where they had been ? they said they had been frolicking in the fields (he understood they had been at some free negroe's house in Bowery-lane) at which frolic Othello said, that Robin and Sussex (Mrs. Bickley's negroes) were present, and Tiebout's Curacoa Dick.

22. That the same Sunday morning he afterwards met the said Curacoa Dick, who said they had been dancing at the said frolic, and he fiddled ; and that Sussex paid him therefor two pieces of eight, which he called Dutch dollars ; he told him so before Mr. Cruger's coachman Hanover ; and the said Dick called him aside from Hanover, and told him that they had been talking there about the plot, and said that Quack (Walter's) was there ; and he, Adam, saw Quack (Walter's) leading a horse

(a) Holt it seems was a free-mason.

into a stable near the new Dutch church, a little before he met Curacoa Dick, and he believes Pompey saw him also, but he and Pompey were parted before he, Adam, met Curacoa Dick; he, Adam, and Pompey being going to their respective master's stables: he, Adam, observed that Quack was very drunk; just turned his master's horse into the stable, and shut the door and went away.

23. That when he met Curacoa Dick, he said, mate, we wanted you very much last night at a frolic out of town; that they had a free dance and were very merry; and he pulled two Dutch dollars out of his pocket, which Sussex had given him for fiddling, and shewed them to him; and said nobody else had given him any thing: he leaned upon the post and shook his head when he, Adam, came up to him; and he, Adam, said, Dick you have some ill thoughts in your head: Dick answered, he was not afraid to tell him; he would tell him the truth; he then said, that Othello and Quack (Walter's) both knew of the plot; and that at this frolic they all talked of it; and that there were present at that meeting the negroes following, Othello, Quack (Walter's) Braveboy, Robin, Sussex: this Dick told him before Hanover, Mr. Cruger's coachman.

24. That Cuffee (Philipse's) told him, that he used often to talk to John Romme about the plot; and that he had promised him a great while to get an old sword or two for him (Romme) and this he said when he, Adam, met him carrying an old sword under his coat to Romme's; and he knew that Cuffee used frequently to go thither.

25. That it was a great while ago since Quack (Walter's) told him that Othello was concerned in the plot; that he has frequently talked to him about it; and he was to do the same that he and Jack were to do; that is to say, to kill his master and mistress and the rest of the family; and he, Adam, and the rest of them who were to murder Mr. Murray's family, were to assist in murdering the chief-justice.(b)

26. That he recollects that he, Adam, spoke to Othello about the plot, a few days after Hughson had proposed it to him at the cock-fighting at Mr. Philipse's house; and he (Adam) asked him to be concerned; he (Othello) said he would, and laughed, and seemed by his behaviour to have known of it before.

27. That since the fires began to break out after the fort burnt, he once said to Sussex, at Mr. Murray's, how came the fort to

(b) See Jack's examination, June 26, § 10.

be fired? Sussex answered, Lord have mercy upon us! what will become of us all? Adam replied he did not know.

28. That Jack his fellow servant and he (Adam) have been very intimate ever since Mr. Freeman's time, and that soon after his coming to town after Mrs. Freeman's death, he [Jack] mentioned the plot first to him (Adam) and told him that Walter's Quack first mentioned it to him (Jack) and asked him to be concerned.

29. That on Easter Sunday last, he and Jack his fellow servant went down to the North river together, Jack was to fetch tea-water at Comfort's; he went to Hughson's house, and Jack left his keg at Comfort's and followed him to Hughson's, when they came there, they found in one room, John Hughson, his wife and daughter Sarah, and Peggy, and the following negroes viz. Walter's Quack, Othello, Pintard's Cæsar, Ward's Bill, Philipse's Cuffee, Auboyneau's Prince, Brash, Vaarck's Cæsar, Mrs. Sims's Billy (now Ten Eyck's) and Albany; and John Hughson then proposed to the said negroes, in presence of the said white people, that they should meet at Mr. Murray's house that night, and that Jack was to be in the kitchen, and open the back gate, where all those other negroes were to come in, and he (Adam) was to come down stairs to them, and then they were to proceed to set fire to the house, murder his master and mistress, and all the white people in the family; and he (Adam) was to murder Congo, and Jack to murder Cæsar (two other of his master's negroes) and then all the said negroes were to go out and kill all the white people that should come to extinguish the fire; the murder was to have been committed with knives, and the knife found in his (Adam's) chest upon the general search, was kept for that purpose, but the negroes so appointed, did not come that night, though they all agreed and promised Hughson so to do, and upon which Hughson gave them a bowl of punch.(c)

30. That he and Jack have always been very intimate; they never talked any thing before Congo or Cæsar, their fellow servants; they always talked by themselves, and do not believe they know any thing of it, nor ever heard Jack say that they did; he believes that if Jack had spoke to them about it, to be sure he would have told him of it.

31. That when Jack returned from fetching water at Comfort's he was generally drunk, and from that suspected that he had been at Hughson's.

(c) See Jack's examination, § 10, 11.

Evidence affecting this negro.—Jack (Murray's) confession, 26th June. Tom (Livingston's) confession, § 4, page 112.

This negro, Adam, was very willing to lay hold of the benefit of the proclamation before mentioned, but would entitle himself to it by saying as little as possible to enlarge the discovery of the confederates in this dark scheme: he was under examination several hours, several days running; the information that he gave came from him slowly and by piece-meals, which was very tiresome, and gave so much trouble that he was several times remanded to jail, and told that what he said would do him little service, but as the constable was taking him away he would beg to stay, and say he would tell of all he could recollect.—While he was under examination this day, it was told before Adam, that the chief justice's negro Othello was brought from Rhode-Island, and carrying to jail, and hearing that, he immediately said Othello was concerned in the plot, as if naturally concluding that some body else had impeached him, for till this accident he had not mentioned his name. This Adam had a general acquaintance amongst the negroes, and idle time enough for doing any mischief, and it was supposed that he must have known most of the negroes concerned, though he mentioned very few but what we were apprized of before, and had already been either executed or apprehended.

It was observed by several in Mr. Murray's family, some time before Adam's commitment, that his behaviour was such as bethokened strong symptoms of guilt, he appeared very uneasy and disturbed in his mind, and much more so when Jack his fellow servant was taken up as one concerned in the conspiracy, for the next morning he came several times into the clerk's office, with a seeming intention to disclose some secret; the young gentlemen at last took notice of it, and shutting the door too, asked him, whether he knew any thing concerning the plot? he denied he did, but said he was afraid some dog or another would owe him a spite, and bring him in, for that people talked a great deal of him.

In the afternoon, Mr. Murray having been present and assisting at his negro Jack's examination, upon his return home found Adam running backwards and forwards like a distracted creature, he called him into his study and charged him as one concerned in the conspiracy, which he absolutely denied, and protested his innocence; his master endeavoured and used many arguments to prevail with him to confess if he was guilty, but to no purpose, and then he delivered him to the constable.