

Joshua Child who is charged on oath by Peggy Johnson of this
Parish of Nottingham, in this county, single woman with child,
the father of her bastard child, and stands bound by recognizance
to appear here and perform the order of the court, appeared and
thereupon the said Peggy Johnson being sworn and examined
the attorney for the defendant objected to the competency
of the testimony of the said Peggy Johnson for this that she
the said Peggy Johnson is an idiot and not competent to
give testimony, and moved the court to reject her testimony
the court decided that the said Peggy was competent to give
testimony to which opinion of the court the defendants counsel
tendered a bill of exceptions to the evidence of the Plaintiff
which was received signed and sealed by the court and ordered
to be made a part of the record in this case. The court
after hearing the testimony and what could be said on the part
of the said Joshua Child took thereupon and upon the circum-
stances of the case order that the said Joshua Child find security
for the support and maintenance of the said bastard child
for five years from this day yet to come - And enter into a
recognizance himself in the sum of One hundred dollars
and One Security in One hundred dollars, thereupon the
said Joshua Child with Seps. Lankford of this county
came into court and acknowledged themselves to be severally
indebted to his Excellency George M. Smith Esq. Lieutenant Governor
now exercising the functions of Governor the said Joshua Child
in the sum of One hundred dollars and the said Seps
Lankford in the sum of One hundred dollars each of
their respective lands and tenements goods and chattels to be levied
and to the use of the creditors of the poor to be rendered yet
upon this condition that if the said Joshua Child shall pay
to the use of the poor the sum of Six pounds annually
for the space of five years from this day for the support
of the said bastard begotten on the body of the said
Peggy Johnson then the said recognizance is to be void