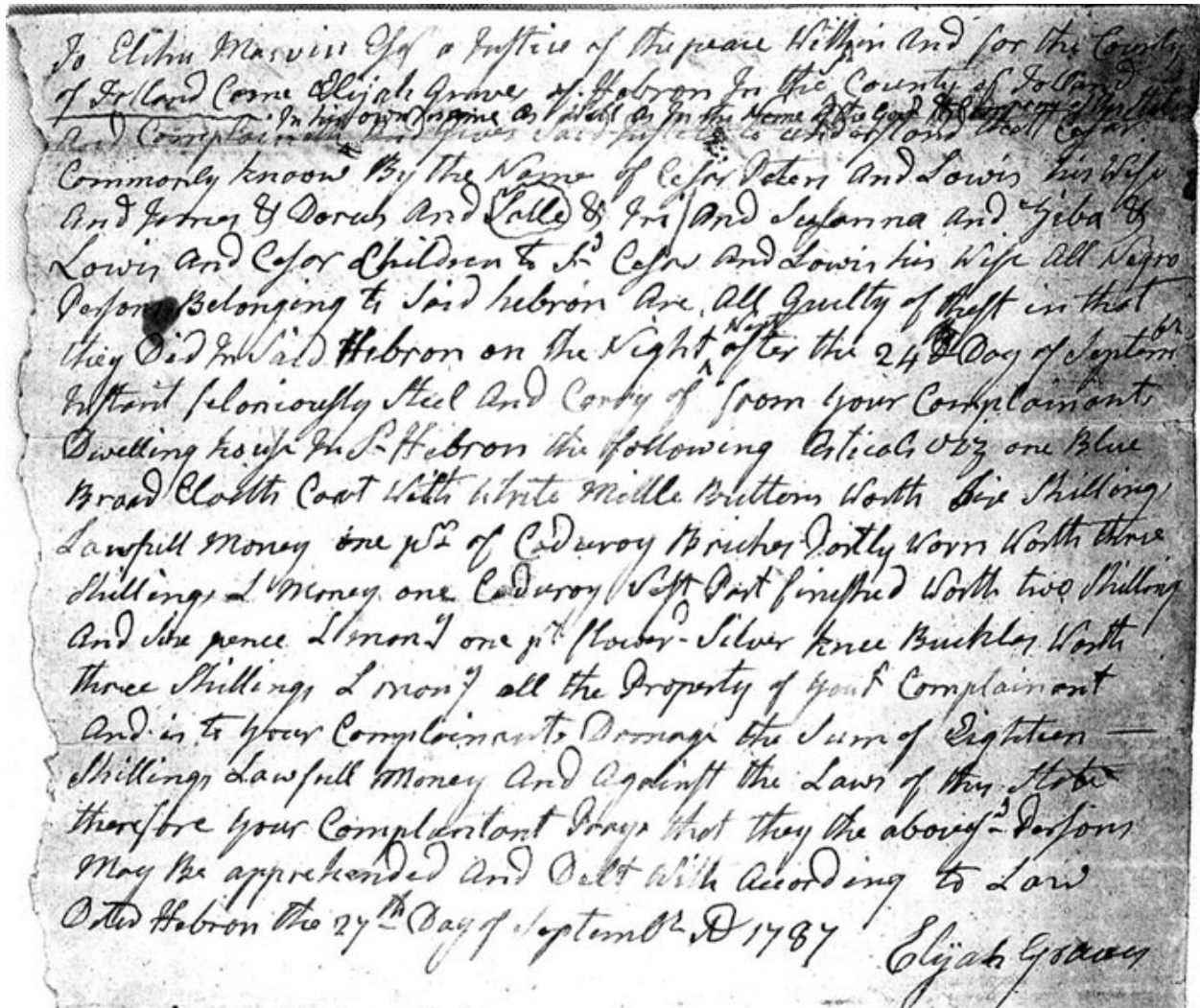


## Complaint and Warrant Against Cesar and Lowis

After Cesar and Lowis Peters and their children had been seized and carried away, Elijah Graves, a local tailor, swore out a complaint against Cesar and his wife and children, claiming they "are all guilty of theft" of various articles of clothing belonging to him. Elihu Marvin, the local justice of the peace, issued an arrest warrant for Cesar and Lowis Peters, which gave the Hebron citizens the right to detain the Peters family and return them to Hebron before they could be sent to South Carolina. A year later, in a deposition taken out in response to Cesar and Lowis Peter's application to the Connecticut General Assembly for emancipation, Elijah Graves stated that he had sworn the complaint "'movd with compassion under the Colour of Lawfull authority."



To Elihu Marvin Esq a Justice of the peace within and for the County of Tolland Come Elijah Graves of Hebron in the County of Tolland and Complaineth in his own name as well as in the Name of the Govr. & Company of the State and gives said Justice to understand that Cesar commonly known By the Name of Cesar Peters and Lowis his Wife and James & Dorah and Talle & Ira and Susanna and Ziba the Lowis and Cesar children to s<sup>d</sup> Cesar and Lowis his wife all Negro Persons Belonging to said Hebron are all Guilty of theft in that they did in said Hebron on the Night after the 24<sup>th</sup> Day of September last feloniously steal and carry off from your Complainants Dwelling house in s<sup>d</sup> Hebron the following Articles viz one Blue broad Cloth Coat with white miller Buttons worth six Shillings Lawfull money one p<sup>ce</sup> of Caduroy Tricker Dootly Worn worth three Shillings & money one Caduroy Soft Dist finished worth two Shillings and the pence 2 mon<sup>y</sup> one p<sup>ce</sup> of Flower-Silver knee Buckler worth three Shillings & mon<sup>y</sup> all the Property of your Complainant and is to your Complainants Damage the sum of Eighteen Shillings Lawfull money and Against the Laws of this State therefore your Complainant Prays that they the above Persons may be apprehended and dealt with according to Law Dated Hebron the 27<sup>th</sup> Day of Septemb<sup>r</sup> 1787 Elijah Graves

## Elijah Graves Complaint

Courtesy, Hebron Historical Society, Hebron, CT

## Transcription of Elijah Graves Complaint Against Cesar and Lowis Peters

To Elihu Marvin Esq a Justice of the peace within and for the County of Tolland Come Elijah Graves of Hebron in the County of Tolland and Complaineth in his name as well as in the name of the Govr. & Company of the State and gives said Justice to understand that Cesar commonly known By the Name of

Cesar Peters and Lowis his wife and James & Doris and Salle & Iri and Susanna and Ziba & Lowis and Cesar children to said Cesar and Lowis his Wife all Negro Persons Belonging to Said Hebron are all guilty of theft in that they did in Said Hebron on the Night N\_\_\_\_ after the 24th Day of September Instant feloniously Steel and Carry of [sic] from Your Complainant's Dwelling house in Sd. Hebron the following articals viz. one Blue Broad Cloth Coat with white mettles Buttons Worth Six Shillings Lawfull money, one pr. of Coduroy Briches partly worn worth three Shillings L. money, one Coduroy Vest part finished worth two Shillings and six pence L. money, one pr. flower-Silver knee Buckles worth three Shillings L. money, all the Property of Your Complainant and is to Your Complainant's Damage the sum of Eighteen Shillings Lawfull Money and against the Laws of this State therefore Your Complainant Prays that they the above-Persons may be apprehended and Delt with according to Law.

Dated Hebron the 27th Day of September AD 1787.

- Elijah Graves