I George Scott The Subscriber, of Newport
Rhode Island Master of the Sloop Called the Little
George Sailed from the Bonnana Island, the
Windward part of the Coast of africa on the first
Day of June 1730 and on the 6th of said mounth
at half an hower past four of the Clock in the
Morning being about 100 Leagues distance from
The Land, Some of the Slaves on Board (the whole
Number being) tho, the Carelessness of the Watch
upon deck) broke there Irons and got throw the
Bulkhead of the deck and hearing a noise with
Groans Exceeding heavy Strokes given took my
Pistoll directly and fired up the Shuttle upon
Which all of the Slaves that were lose ran forward
Excepting 2 or 3 men who seem'd to laugh at the
Cowardice of the Rest and desines of us (being but
Four men and a boy about 10 years of age Left
Alive) who laid the Scuttle over us and oblig'd us
To keep the Cabin they having murder'd John Harris
The Doctor and two of the Sailors at there first
Ornent whom they threw overboard and passing by
The Companion to view us we Shott two men Slaves
On so Sudden a Surprize were at a loss what to do
But Conclution together filled two Round bottles with
Powder putting fuzees to them in order to Send among
Them with a design, at the same Instant of time to
Issue out upon them and Either Suppress them or loose
Our lives but just as we were putting our design in
Execution one of the Slaves let fall an ax Either
Thro accident or design, which broke the Bottle
As my Sec. mate was Setting fire to the fuzee and
That taking fire with a Egg of Powder in the Cabin
Blew up the deck blew open the Cabin doors and
Windows and burnt the man that had the fuzee in his
Hand almost to death and my self very much hurt
Thereby dischargd all our fire arms distroyed our

Cloaths upon this unhappy accident we expected no
Less than Immediate Death which would have been
Unavoidable had they at that juncture of time Rush,
In upon us: and being in this Consternation and
Hopeless and sent up the boy in order if possible to
Bring them to terms, but they little regarded our
Message but soon after the Smoke Clearing out of
The Cabin, we found the other bottle of powder which
By Providence had not taken fire, and which put
New life and Vigour into us, that we were resolved
To withstand them to the uttermost and accordingly
Loaded our arms and shott Severall of the Slaves,
Being very Careful of the little powder we had left
Seeing our lives depended thereon, afterward the Slaves
In Managing the Vessel found the powder that was
In the fore hold with which they filled one Carriage
Gun and pointed it to the Scuttle a batt to blow up
The same and a Swivel gun to the bulkhead of the
Cabin one Slaves pointing the gun another with
Fire in his hand to discharge the same, but being
Curious to see if the gun pointed at us lifted up
The Scuttle and my Chief mate (Peter Collins)
Being prepared with a small arm, shott the Slave
Dead that pointed the Swivel gun and he fell
Overboard which put the others into so great a
Surprize that they left fall the britel of the said gun
And the muzzel rising upwards they fird over us
Without doing us harm they then made Sail, as
They thought, towards land and ward Continually
Bedewing down bittles of wood and water into the Cabin
With Intention to disable us and spoil our Small
Arms and in four days made land then Stood of again
For four or five days more thus we being almost
Spent and dispairing of our lives, finding they would
Not run the Sloop a shore I then told them that
I would drown them all to bring them to a
Compliance and accordingly cut a whole thro

The Vessel and let in about two feet Water
In the hole which they Perceiving and Imagining
That we were about Sinking the Vessel they began
To beg that I would Carry none of the other Slaves
With them but they were afraid to Risk themselves
In the Boate and Soon after Man the Vessel ashore
And we found it was within twelve Leagues of the
Land from whence we first departed, the Northside
Of the River Serilone, where three or four men
Armed of the natives Came on board and offered to
Enter the Cabin but our Slaves Perswaded them
That if they made such an attempt we Should
Kill them, upon which they went all ashore for
More help and all our Slaves jumpt overboard and
Follow'd them our boy being upon deck and assuring
Us that they were all gone out of the Sloop we
Betook our Selves to the boate and Rowed about
Five or Six Leag.s Cross a River, where we met
With a Sloop belonging to Montserratt Capt.n
Collingwood Master and Refresh.d our Selves
On board being all of us in a Weak and Miserable
Condition having had Nothing to Subsist upon
During the Nine days we were under this
Affliction, but Raw Rice

John Hilton

Transcription of Captain George Scott's testimony given to John Kilton

Transcription done by Jennifer Galpern, Rhode Island Historical Society

"I George Scott the subscriber, of Newport, Rhode Island Master of the Sloop called the Little George sailed from the Bonnana Island; the windward part of the coast of Africa on the first day of June 1730 and on the 6th of said month at half an hour past four of the clock in the morning & being about 100 leagues distance from the land / some of the slaves on board (the whole number being, tho, the carelessness of the watch upon deck) broke there irons and got threw the bulk head of the deck and hearing a noise with groans exceeding heavy strokes given took my pistol directly and fired up the shuttle upon which all of the slaves that were lose ran forward excepting 2 or 3 men who seemed to laugh at the cowardice of the rest and defines of us (being but four men and a boy about 10 years of age left alive) who laid the scuttle over us and obliged us to keep the cabin they having murdered John Harris the doctor and two of the sailors at there first oment whom they threw overboard and passing by the companion to view us we shott two men slaves on so sudden a surprise were at a loss what to do but conclution together filled two round bottles with powder putting fuzees to them in order to send among them with a define, at the same instant of time to issue out upon them and either suppress them or loose our lives but just as we were putting our design into execution one of the slaves let fall an ax either through accident or design, which broke the bottle as my second

mate was setting fire to the fuzee and that taking fire with a cagg of powder in the cabin blew up the deck blew open the cabin door and windows and burnt the man that had the fuzee in his hand almost to death and my self very much hurt thereby discharged all our fire arms destroyed our clothes upon this unhappy accident we expected no less than immediate death which would have been unavoidable had they at that junction of time rush in upon us; and being in this consternation and hopeless and sent up the boy in order if possible to bring them to terms, but they little regarded our message but soon after the smoke clearing out of the cabin we found the other bottle of powder which by providence had not taken fire and which put new life and vigor into us, that we were resolved to withstand them to the utter most and accordingly loaded our arms and shot several of the slaves, being very careful of the little powder we had left seeing our lives depended there on, afterward, the slaves in ramaging the vessel found the powder that was in the fore hold, with which they filled one carrage gun and pointed it to the scuttle about to blow up the same and a swivel gun to the bulkhead of the cabin one slaves pointing the gun another with fire in his hand to discharge the same but being curious to see if the gun pointed at us lifted up the scuttle and my Chief Mate (Peter Collins) being prepared with a small arm , shott the slave dead that pointed the swivel gun and he fell overboard which put the others into so great a surprise that they let fall the brittle of the said gun and the muzzle rising upwards they fired over us without doing us any harm they then maide sail (as heaving down bittles of

wood and water into the cabin with intention to disable us and spoil our small arms and in four days maid land then stood of again for four or five days more thus we being almost spend and disparing of our lives, finding they would not run the sloop a shore I then told them that I would drown them all to bring them to a compliance and accordingly cut a whole thru the vessel and lot in about two feet of water in the hole which they perceiving and imagining that we were about sinking the vessel they began to begg that would carry none of the other slaves with them but they were afraid to risk themselves in the boate and soon after ran the vessel ashore and we found it was within twelve leagues of the land from whence we first departed, the North side of the River Serilone, where three or four men armed of the natives came on board and offered to enter the cabin but our slaves persuaded them that if they made such an attempt we should kill them, upon which they went all ashore for more help and all our slaves jumpt overboard and followed them our boy being upon deck and assuring us that they were all gone out of the sloop with retook ourselves to the boate and rowed about five or six leagues cross a river, where we met with a sloop belonging to Montseratt Capt. Collingwood Master and refreshed ourselves on board being all of us in a weak and miserable condition having had nothing to subsist upon during the nine days we were under this affliction but raw rice."((MSS 17 Harris Family Papers))