

In the last Will and Testament of James Stewart, deceased, bearing date the twenty ninth day of December in the year of our Lord Eighteen hundred and thirty two, and proven and recorded in the Office of the Register of Wills for Baltimore County on the fifth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and forty six are the following clauses, viz:

"I give to my son George my pew in Christ Church and my colored man Abraham, and to my son Richard my Share in the Ball's Bladyn Library and my colored man George (the brother of Abraham) the said Men to serve respectively for five years after my death, from and after which time they are privileged to become free on condition of going to Liberia or some other foreign settlement for the colonization of colored people - but if they do not avail themselves of this privilege, they are to continue, whilst they remain in Maryland, the property of my said Sons George & Richard respectively."

"I give & bequeath to my daughter Elizabeth my faithful colored woman Maria to serve from 3 to 5 years as she may deem proper and her daughter Harriet to serve till she shall attain the age of twenty one years, they however and their future issue to be free after said terms respectively, on condition of their or either of them going to Liberia or some other foreign settlement for colonizing people of color, but nevertheless to continue the property of my said daughter, whilst they or either of them continue in Maryland."

"I direct that my Executors shall sell or dispose of all my colored people (except those above mentioned) for any term of years they may think proper, subjecting them on expiration of their terms of service to go to Liberia or any other foreign settlement for the colonization of people of color, or to be again the property of my Representatives." And it is my wish that my Executors shall be accountable for no more than the proceeds of such sale."

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

X. Manumissions and Emigrants
C. Manumissions, Copies

1846