No. 1219
Washington Co.
18th July 1846

To all whom it may concern, be it known, that I William Russell of Washington County, and State of Maryland, for divers good reasons and considerations, me thereunto moving, have released from slavery, liberated, manumitted and set free, and by these presents do hereby release from slavery, liberate, manumit and set free, my negro boy, named William Lawrence Russell, light color, and aged about eighteen months, being the same boy who was conveyed to me by Jacob Schnelly of the County and State aforesaid, by Bill of Sale bearing date the eighteenth day of April A.D. eighteen hundred and forty six, and recorded in Liber J.N. No. 1, folios 753 & 754, one of the Land Records of Washington County, he the said boy, or child, being to all appearance in good health, his head, body and limbs well formed and proportioned, and requiring only age to enable him to work, learn a trade or study a profession, and thereby gain a livelyhood or maintenance, and being the said negro child named William Lawrence Russell who I acknowledge to be my son, born in Holy Wedlock, I do declare to be henceforth free, manumitted, and discharged from all manner of service or servitude to me, my executors or administrators forever. In Witness whereof I have set my hand & seal this eighteenth day of July in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and forty six. –

Signed, sealed and delivered in presence of
Wm. H. Handy – Jacob Kendal

William Russell (Seal)

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

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1846