In the Codicil to the last Will and Testament of Elizabeth Edwards deceased, bearing date the fourteenth day of November in the year eighteen hundred and forty four, and proven and recorded in the Office of the Register of Wills for Baltimore County on the fourteenth day of November in the year eighteen hundred and forty six, is the following Clause, viz:

"I do hereby declare my will and intention and I do hereby manumit"
"and set free all my negro Slaves, the Males to be free as they shall"
"respectively attain the age of thirty years, and the Females as they"
"shall respectively attain the age of twenty eight years, and the Males"
"and Females who shall have attained the said respective ages at the"
"time of my death, to claim and exercise their freedom at the expiration"
"of twelve months from and after the period of my death and not before."

In Testimony that the aforegoing is a true Extract taken from the Original filed and remaining in the Office of the Register of Wills for Baltimore County, I hereunto subscribe my name and affix the seal of my Office this thirtieth day of November in the year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred and forty six. –

Test: D. M. Perine, Register of Wills
for Baltimore County

.... To all whom it may concern; be it known that I Smith Lankford of Somerset County, in the State of Maryland for divers causes 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 woman named Caroline James, when she shall arrive at the age of thirty years being of the age of twenty years, on the first day of January A. D. 1847; also my negro boy named Arthur James, when he shall arrive at the age of thirty five years being of the age of two years on the first day of January A. D. 1847 & the said Slaves I do declare to be henceforth free manumitted and discharged from all manner of service or servitude, to me my heirs, executors or administrators forever when the said slaves shall arrive at the age above written, in witness whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my seal this 26th day of November A. D. 1846.

Signed sealed & delivered in presence
Benjamin Lankford.
Nathan C. Conner.

Smith Lankford (Seal)

State of Maryland Somerset County, to wit:
On this day of Nov. A. D. 1846. personally appeared before me the subscriber a Justice of the Peace in the State and County aforesaid, Smith Lankford, party of the above written instrument, and acknowledges the same to be his act and deed for the purpose within mentioned; and that the above named slaves to be manumitted and discharged from all service to him or to any claiming under him, and to be free and manumitted according to the act of Assembly in such cases made and provided when they the said slaves shall arrive at the age above written. Before Nathan C. Conner, J. P.

Mary. Somerset County, to wit:
I hereby certify that the aforegoing is a true copy of a Deed of Manumission filed in the Office of the Clerk of Somerset County Court on the twenty sixth day of November 1846 to be recorded.
In testimony whereof I hereto subscribe my name and affix the seal of said Court this thirtieth day of November, Anno Domini 1846.

W. T. G. Polk, Clk. S. C. C.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

X. Manumissions and Emigrants
C. Manumissions, Copies

1846