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Maryland Colonization Society
Baltimore

Dec. 10th 1850
Somerset County

To all whom it may concern be it known that I, James Lawson, Senr. of Somerset County, in the State of Maryland, for divers good 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 Sah being of the age of twenty eight years, and able to work and gain a sufficient livelihood and maintenance, and her the said negro woman named Sah I do declare to be henceforth free, manumitted and discharged from all manner of service or servitude to me my executors or administrators for ever. And I the said Lawson, for the above considerations do release from slavery, liberate, manumit, and set free, and by these presents do hereby release from slavery, liberate, manumit, and set free, four of my said negro woman's children being of the following names and ages, viz: John aged twelve years, Louisa, aged ten years, Lucresia Ann, aged seven years, and Samuel aged five years when they shall arrive to the age of twenty one years, and able to work and gain a sufficient livelihood and maintenance, and then the said negro children I do declare to be free, manumitted and discharged from all manner of service or servitude to me my executors or administrators for ever, when they arrive to the age of twenty one years. In witness whereof I the said James Lawson Senr. have hereunto subscribed my hand and seal this 19 day of January 1850

Signed, sealed, and delivered in presence of Michael Somers, John H. Handy.

James Lawson, Senr. (Seal)

State of Maryland Somerset County, to wit: Be it remembered and it is hereby certified that on this 19th day of January, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and fifty before the Subscribers two Justices of the Peace for the State of Maryland, in and for Somerset County personally appeared James Lawson Senr. (negro of 28 years) and did sign and acknowledge the foregoing deed of manumission or instrument of writing to be his act and deed. In testimony whereof, we hereunto subscribe our names on the day and year aforesaid.

Michael Somers. John H. Handy.

Maryland, Somerset County, to wit: Hereby certify that the aforegoing is truly copied from the original filed in the Office of the Clerk of Somerset County Court on the 5th day of February, Anno Domini 1850, to be recorded.

In testimony whereof I hereto subscribe my name and affix the seal of Somerset County Court this 12th day of February Anno Domini 1850.

W. J. G. Polk, Clk Somt Cty Court.

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

X. Manumissions and Emigrants
C. Manumissions, Copies

1850