To all whom it may concern, be it known that I Thomas Nelson ..... 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 man named Peter Nelson being of the age of forty years and able to work and gain a sufficient livelihood and maintenance, and him the said negro man named Peter Nelson, 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 the said Thomas Nelson have hereunto subscribed my hand and seal this eleventh day of January in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and fifty

Thomas Nelson (Seal)

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

State of Maryland, Somerset County, to wit: Be it remembered and it is hereby certified, that, on this eleventh day of January, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and fifty, upon the subscribers two Justices of the Peace of the State of Maryland in and for said County aforesaid, personally appears Thomas Nelson he being known to us to be the person who is named and described in the foregoing deed of manumission, and doth acknowledge the said indenture 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:

I 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 eighteen hundred and fifty, to be recorded.

In testimony whereof I hereto subscribe my name and affix the seal of said Somerset County Court this twelfth day of February Anno Domini eighteen hundred and fifty

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

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

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