

To all whom it may concern, be it known that
 I, Edward M Dawson of Talbot County in the State
 of Maryland for divers good causes and considerations
 me therunto moving, have released from slavery, librated
 manumitted, and set free, and by these presents do hereby
 release from slavery, librate manumit and set free my
 Negro Man named Theodore Banton being of the age of
 thirty eight years, and able to work and give a sufficient
 livelihood maintained and him the said Negro man
 named Theodore Banton, 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 ~~Testimony~~ Witness whereof I have put to affix my
 hand and seal this thirtieth day of December Eighteen
 hundred and fifty four
 signed in presence of
 Geo. G. Jackson
 J. Graham
 E. M. Dawson (seal)

State of Maryland. Be it remembered that on this 30th
 Talbot County towit day of December Eighteen hundred
 and fifty four before me the subscriber a Justice of
 the peace of the State of Maryland, in and for the County
 aforesaid personally appeared Edward M Dawson
 and acknowledges the above instrument of writing to be
 his act and deed, according to the tenor intent and meaning
 thereof, and the act of assembly in such case made and
 provided. Taken and Acknowledged before Sol. M. Cahal

State of Maryland Talbot County towit I hereby certify
 that the foregoing is a true copy, taken and copied from
 the original, now filed and remaining of Record in my
 Office
 In Testimony Whereof I have put to

Maryland Historical Society
 The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers
 X. Manumissions and Emigrants
 C. Manumissions, Copies
 1854