I John T. Meeds of Talbot County and State of Maryland do hereby manumit and set free my negro slave man Nat Smith, his freedom to commence from the date of these presents, the said Nat Smith being now resident in Centreville Queen Anne County.
Witness my hand and seal this Eighth day of June in the Year Eighteen hundred and fifty Eight.

Test John T. Meeds (Seal)

Wm B. Wheeler

J. W. Jump

State of Maryland Talbot County to wit:
Be it remembered and it is hereby certified that on this Eighth day of June in the Year Eighteen hundred and fifty Eight before me the Subscriber a justice of the peace of the State of Maryland in and for Talbot County aforesaid personally appeared John T. Meeds and acknowledged the foregoing instrument to be his act and deed.

Acknowledged before
Wm B. Wheeler

State of Maryland, Talbot County to wit:
I hereby certify that the aforegoing is a true Copy taken from the Original, filed and about to be recorded in the Office of the Circuit Court for Talbot County.

In Testimony whereof, I hereto set my name, and affix the Seal of the Circuit Court for Talbot County this 29th day of June A. D. 1858.

Thos. H. Hopkins Clk
Circuit Court for Talbot County

To all whom it may concern, be it known, that We John L. Sears and Arrianna Sears, of the City of Philadelphia in the State of Pennsylvania, for divers good Causes and Considerations, us thereunto moving, have released from Slavery, liberated, manumitted and set free, and by these presents do hereby release from Slavery, manumit and set free, our negro Woman Ellen Thomas being of the age of Twenty-nine years, and able to work and gain a sufficient livelihood and Maintenance, and her the said Negro Woman named Ellen Thomas, we do declare to be henceforth free, manumitted and discharged from all manner of service or servitude to us, our Executors or Administrators forever.
In Witness whereof, we hereunto set our hands and seals on this Second day of June Eighteen hundred and fifty Eight.

John L. Sears (Seal)
A. Amanda Sears (Seal)

Signed, sealed, and delivered in presence of Thos. Auld

Thos. H. W. Lambdin

State of Maryland, County of Talbot to wit: I hereby certify that on this 2d day of June A. D. 1858 before the Subscriber a Justice of the Peace in and for Talbot County personally appeared John L. Sears and Amanda his wife, and did each acknowledge the aforegoing deed of manumission to be their respective act.

Thos. H. W. Lambdin J. P.

State of Maryland, Talbot County to wit: I hereby certify that the aforegoing is a true Copy taken from the Original, filed and about to be recorded in the Office of the Circuit Court for Talbot County.

In Testimony whereof, I hereto set my name and affix the Seal of the Circuit Court for Talbot County this 29th day of June A. D. 1858.

Thos. H. Hopkins Clk
Circuit Court for Talbot County

Maryland Historical Society

The Maryland State Colonization Society Papers

X. Manumissions and Emigrants
C. Manumissions, Copies

1858