Negro in this Manner by way of precaution against his being rendered incapable of making a Will in writing before it should be done. this Deponent further saith that the Said paper was not to his knowledge ever read to the Deceased and that upon his coming to the Deceased House on the day the Said paper was executed the Said Burkett told this deponent that she had sent for John Ruth to write the Said Browns Will because she was afraid she should lose her Negro unless the Will was in writing and the further saith that the Messenger to Ruth to come to make a Will as aforesd was this Deponent who told Ruth that Mr Brown (the deceased) had sent for him to make a Will and he further saith that John Ruth wrote the Said Will and that while it was doing no person was present with the deceased but the Said Ruth to his knowledge

his
Benjamin ⊥ Hinds
mark

Sworn 15 Sepr 1762
before Bordley C.G.

and the following Deposition of John Ruth which was ordered to be recorded

The Deposition of John Ruth produced to be Examined by the Executor for the Will (and he being Sworn upon the Holy Due Answered he was no ways interested but upon being asked wether he be not at this time a Co Obligor with the Executor named in the Will in a Bond for a Sum of Money to the Deceased answered in the Affimative) who being Generally Sworn Deposeth and saith, That on the day the Said

writing was executed Benjamin Hinds met this deponent on the Road and told him that Mr Brown (ye deced) had sent for this Deponent to come and write his Will whether this Deponent accordingly went and after some time mentioning to the said Brown that he understood the Said Brown had sent for Deponent to make his Will he Said yes, as it was not make his days longer or Shorter and was necessary to be done he desired this deponent would proceed thereon upon which this deponent asked for a Ruler to rule lines on the paper to write the Will on he answered there was no ruler but there was a two foot rule and ordered the girl to go & bring it telling the girl where it was, which she accordingly found and brought and of which he made use and before this Deponent begun to write the said Will ye Deced Brown desired this deponent to order every Body to go out of the room for that there might otherwise be some disturbance but did not at that time inform this deponent of what kind or by whom such disturbance might be and this Deponent did accordingly order and Cause to go out of the Deceds room all except him and this deponent and upon writing the Preamble to the Said Will this deponent read the same to the Deceased he answered it was very well and upon asking him how he intended to dispose of his Estate the Deceased answered this girl meaning Burkett was very good Girl and he must leave her something, that he promised to leave her a Negro Girl and desired this deponent to call her in and upon her coming in he asked her if the Negro Girl Rachel would do to which she answered Yes and went directly out of the room upon which he