from what source they took the name of Thomas.

8. What is the General Character of Margaret Reeder, Sarah Fowke, Mary Stone, Mary Mc Coy, Anne Thompson, Richard Robins Reeder.

9. And of Charles Ray and Thomas Webster?

10 Did you ever know or hear of Mary Curtes. Tell her Character:

11. Do you know of any ancient person except the above mentioned (to whose Characters you depose) who would be like to know the events that happened in Stone family or their Neighbourhood.

Charles County ss. On this day to wit the 13th day of September 1794. Walter Hanson came before me and was examined on his Oath touching the petition of Robert Thomas against Henry Pile in the General Court of Maryland as to the Interogetories on Behalf of the Plaintiff he depose and say to the first, that he knows of no person by the name of Robert Thomas ast Henry Ple, if he be the Gentleman that is a Catholic Priest. I have seen him several times, but no particular Acquaintance with him.

Also the second Interrogatory he knows nothing of the Mother of the petitioner. In Answer to the third he knows nothing of the Grandmother of the petitioner. In Answer to the fourth the Deponent deposes he knew nothing at all of Betty Mingo, nor did he ever to his knowledge hear any thing of her until the petition for Freedom was preferred, and further this Deponent saith not. In Answer to the first Interrogatory taken for the Defendant Henry Pile the Deponent Walter Hanson on his Oath declares that he was very well acquainted with Thomas Stone Father of David Stone, with David Stone and Catherine Stone, relict of Thomas Stone more than seventy years ago, that he has lived within four miles of Pointon Manor since the year seventeen hundred and thirty eight. In answer to the second Interogatory the Deponent says that David Stone did marry his Sister, He remembers they lived in a married State in the year 1745 when she died but before her death she had three Children, that he was well acquainted with David Stone before that marriage took place. To the third Interrogatory he says that Samuel Stone did marry his Daughter. To the fourth he deposeth he has been well acquainted with the Stone family ever since he was fifteen or sixteen years old he this Deponent being now in his eighty third year. To the fifth he says that he

he does not know David Stone gave to his Son Samuel any Negroes, other than those who has been told has set up a claim to Freedom, He knows not which of them now claims a Title to Freedom only from hearsay. To the sixth, he deposeth he knew nothing of Betty Mingo or any of her Descendants nor whether they are held as Slaves by any person whatever, nor does he know why the Negroes in Question went by the name of Mingo or from what Source they took the name of Thomas. To the eighth Interogatory he says that the Characters of Margaret Reeder, Sarah Fowke, Mary Stone, Mary Mc Coy, Anne Thompson, Richard Robins Reeder, in his opinion, stands as fair and unblemished as any person he ever was acquainted with. To the ninth he says that Charles Ray and Thomas Webster are poor free Mulattos, but reckoned very honest and Inoffensive persons. To the tenth he says he thinks he has heard of Mary Curtes, but knows nothing of her Character. To the eleventh he says he apprehends that Mr Richard Barnes, William Maconchie and James Muncaster are likely to know the events that happened in the Stone Family as they are of long standing and near Neighbours and Acquaintance. And further this Deponent saith not.

Walter Hanson

I certifie that the above Deposition of Walter Hanson was taken by me the day and year first above written.

James Freeman

Robert Thomas vs Henry Pile	Petition for Freedom in the General Court.

Sarah Boarman aged forty one years being duly sworn made the several Answers annexed to the following Interrogatories viz.

1st. Mr. Pile asked Mrs Boarman how long she had known him the said Defendant.

Answer. About ten years.

2nd How long have you known the petitioner?

Answer. I have known him ever since he was a Child.

3d Were he and his Ancestors always held and reputed as Slaves?

Ans. They were.

4th. Did you ever know or hear that they were intitled to their Freedom and from whom have you heard?

Ans. I do not know that they are intitled to their Freedom but I have been told so by Leonard Boarman Jn. since the Institution of the Suit.

5th. Did you know the Defendants Mother?

Ans. I have known her from my Infancy.

6th. Did you ever hear her say that the Petitioners relations were intitled to their