never heard Priss nor any of her descendants say they were intitled to Freedom, or in any manner related to the Savoy's, and further saith not: Taken this 23d day Oct. 1794. and Sworn to before Richd Harwood. — Being further asked by Defendant how long Priss has been dead, and where she died: answered, she has been dead upward of thirty years, and in the possession of Mr Gaither; On the same day Sworn to as dated above,

Before — Richd Harwood. —

The Deposition of John Nicholson of Anne Arundel County of lawful age, being interrogated by Plaintiff, as to the first Interrogatory, answers he knows nothing respecting it – Second Interrogatory; answers as in the first – Third Interrogatory; answers as in the foregoing Interrogatory – Fourth Interrogatory; answers, he never did. – Fifth. answers, that he never knew Priss or any one of her family, that he knew Mings Savoy and one or two others of the Savoy's, but know of no relationship between Priss and them, saith that he at this time is Eighty four years old: being asked by Defendant if he knew either of the parties in this Suit: answers, that he is well acquainted with John Watkins, but as to Plaintiff he does not know, but a negro man offered him two half Joes to swear him Free but do not recollect that the person told him who was his master a his own name, and further saith not: Taken this 23d Oct. 1794. and Sworn to before – Richd Harwood. –

Sarah Prout of Anne Arundel County aged between sixty & seventy years, being sworn on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God, deposeth & saith that she has known the Petitioner ever since he was a Boy; that she knew Jenny, mother of the petitioner when she belonged to Mr Gaither now deceased, and that she also knew Priss the mother of Jenny who belonged to the same person upwards of thirty years ago; that she knew Mings Savy and his sisters Sarah and Judah about the same time, and that they were the only sisters of Mings which she knew. being asked if Priss was sister of Mings, answers as not that she knows of; that Priss died in Slavery; that Priss and Mings lived in the same neighbourhood & knew each other; that the deponent formerly lived with Benjamin Williams near the head of South River, & afterwards with Thomas Rutland until she got Free, which was about twelve years ago; that she is the daughter of Cate Prout who was the daughter of a white woman named Betty Prout: That

she knew Sarah, aunt of the petitioner and daughter of Priss, that she heard Sarah call Mings, uncle, and claimed him with him, as often as she saw them together: that she never heard Betty, Esther & Nanny, other aunts of the petitioner call Mings uncle: that her mother Cate Prout lived and died in Slavery, with Gideon Linthicum; that this deponent and all her Children were held in Slavery from their birth, till they got free about 10 years ago. that Tom, the son of Priss had a daughter of Sarah Savoy, to wife. – Sworn to May 28. 1795. — Before. — Bullen. — —

Whereupon the said John Watkins by his attorney aforesaid, as before, defends the force and injury when and soforth, and saith that the said John Bartley his Petition aforesaid against him the said John Watkins to have and maintain ought not because he saith that the said John Bartley is the proper Slave of him the said John Watkins, without, that, that the said John Bartley is Free; wherefore, he prays Judgment and so forth. — And the said John Bartley by his attorney aforesaid saith that he is Free and not the proper Slave of the said John Watkins, and of this he puts himself upon the Country; and the said John Watkins in like manner and soforth. Therefore let a Jury thereon appear before the Court here immediately, by whom andsoforth, and who neither andsoforth, to recognize and soforth, because as well and soforth: And the Jurors of the Jury aforesaid, whereof mention is above made being called, come, that is to say: Thomas Lingan, John Gray & Cubbin, James P. Boyd, James Matthews, John Jolly James W. Lawrence, Henry Baker, Augustine Spalding, William & Thomas Daniel James, James Tanyhill and Patrick Sim, who being duly elected, tried, impannelled and sworn to say the truth upon the premises, depart from the Bar of the Court here to consider of their verdict to be thereupon given, and they having considered and agreed thereof amongst themselves, return to the Bar of the Court here to give their said Verdict; whereupon the said John Bartley, the petitioner aforesaid, although solemnly demanded, comes not, nor doth he further prosecute his Petition aforesaid, against the said John Watkins; Whereupon the said Jurors are wholly discharged from giving any verdict of and upon the premises aforesaid; Therefore it is considered by the Court here, that the Petition aforesaid of the said John Bartley, preferred against the said John Watkins, for Freedom be dismissed. andsoforth. — Test. John Irwin Clerk.