12th Did you know Mrs Neale Widow of William Neale near Potobacco? if yea, did you ever hear her say any thing of the shorters, and which of them, and did she say they were descended from a white woman, and what was her name, and with whom did she live?

13th Do you know a have you heard and from whom that the negroes or mulattoes who called themselves shorters, or any of them are descended from a white woman, and what was her name.

14th Were you ever present when her person were sworn concerning the right of the shorters to freedom? if yea on what occasion was it, what were their names what did they depose and were the people affect:

15th Have you any knowledge concerning the right of the petitioner or any of his family to freedom: if yea relate it fully and truly.

G Duvall
Th. H. Gantt } for Petitioner

1 Deposition

Prince Georges County court.

Osborn Shorter
to
Mary Hurley
} Petition for freedom

The depositions of sundry persons sworn and examined on the annexed Interrogatories, in Charles County by virtue of a rule of court for the purpose, made in this cause on the part and behalf of the petitioner.

The deposition of Mr John Lancaster Senr. of Charles County aged about sixty years being first duly sworn on the holy Evangels of Almighty God deposeth and saith as follows to wit. Imprimis To the first Interrogatory this deponent saith that he knows neither. Item. To the second Interrogatory this deponent saith that he knows nothing. Item. To the third Interrogatory this deponent saith that he know nothing.

I do hereby certify that the above deposition was taken before me Henry Barnes one of the justices of the peace for Charles County on the 21st August 1792. at the House of Thomas Crackles in Portt in the presence of Hadon Edwards on behalf of John M Gant atty. for the petitioner & Philip B Key Esq. attorney for the Defendant

Henry Barnes

2 The deposition of the Revd Leonard Neale of Charles County aged about forty five years being first duly sworn on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God deposeth and saith as follows to wit. Imprimis To the first Interrogatory this deponent saith that I neither know the petitioner nor Defendant. Item To the second Interrogatory this Deponent saith that I know nothing of the mother of the petitioner. Item To the third Interrogatory this deponent saith that I never knew any thing of the grand mother of the petitioner.

I do hereby certify that the aforegoing Deposition was taken before

(me)

me Henry Barnes one of the justices for Charles County at the House of Thomas Crackles in Port Tobacco in the presence of Hadon Edwards Esq on behalf of John M Gantt atty for the petitioner and Philip B Key Esq. attorney for the Defendant

Henry Barnes

Prince Georges County Court.

Charles Shorter
to
Notley Young
} Petition for freedom

Petitioners Interrogatories

1st Do you know the parties, the petitioner and Defendant, and how long have you known them? 2d Do you know Baty the mother of the petitioner, and how long have you known her: 3d Do you or did you know Mary the grandmother of the petitioner and to whom did she belong: 4th Did you know Mary shorter, commonly called Mulatto Moll who lived with Anthony Neale (who died in Charles County many years ago) and did you know the said Mulatto Moll, when she lived with James Neale son of Anthony Neale, and with whom did she afterwards live and how long hath she been dead: 5th Do you know or have you heard and from whom that Mulatto Moll mentioned in the preceding Interrogatories was the Daughter of a white woman if so what was the name of the white woman: was it Elizabeth Shorter or what was her name: 6th Do you know or have you heard and from whom that Elizabeth Shorter a free white woman was married to a negro called little Robin formerly the property of William Roswell of St. Marys County and that the said Elizabeth Shorter with her children were given by the said Roswell to Anthony Neale. 7th Do you know or have you heard and from whom how many children the said Elizabeth Shorter had. what were their names and with whom did they live and die and when: 8th Do you know or have you heard and from whom that the said Elizabeth Shorter had a Daughter named Moll another named Jane or Jenny and another named Martha or Patty if so with whom did they live and die and how long have they been dead: 9th If you know Moll, Jane and Patty the children of Elizabeth shorter how many children had each or either of them what were their names and with whom did they respectively live and die and how long since: 10th Do you know or have you heard and from whom that the petitioner Charles shorter or Baty his mother or Mary his Grand mother is or were descended from a white woman and what was her name: 11th Do you know or have you heard and from whom that the family of the negroes who called themselves shorters or shorty or any and which of them were descended from a white woman and what was her

(name)