answers he never did; Being asked if he ever understood what the name of Roswell Neales father was, answers he has understood it was Anthony Neale. Being asked if he has understood that the aforesaid Jenny was descended from a white woman answers That about five or six years ago when the Butlers got free by judgment of the General Court it was the common talk of the neighbourhood that several other families the Shorts and Mingows now called Thomas would probably petition. Being asked if he heard any reason assigned why these families would petition. answers That it was generally supposed that as the Butlers had got free or would get free, that these two families would petition and that they had the same or an equal right. Being asked if he remembers to have heard what Jenny's mothers name was. answers he did not. Being asked if he has ever heard or if he knows, how the aforesaid Jenny and Lucy her Daughter came into the family of his ancestors. answers that his this Deponents grand father intermarried with the sister of a Mr. Chandler in Charles County and that he this Deponent has often heard his father say that himself and his brother never got from Mothers family any property except one negro each and that the said Lucy was the negro which William Neale the uncle of this Deponent got of his mothers Estate. Being asked if he knows or has heard how many Sons Anthony Neale had answers. That he knew Roswell Neale his grand father and Bennet Neale (Priest) who has been dead about six or seven years, and Charles Neale who died some few years before Bennet, that he did not know any of the others but has understood that he had two other Sons, one named Raphael the other Edward.

Sworn to in open court this 1st June 1796.

Sho Gwinn Clk.

Henry Shorter against Henry Barnes } Petition for Freedom in the General Court.

Charles Shorter against Henry Digges } Same.

Henry Butler aged sixty seven years or thereabouts being sworn on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God Deposeth and saith that she was born in the family of Raphael Neale of Charles County deceased: which Raphael Neale she always understood was the Son of Anthony Neale; and this she understood from her own Mistress Daughter of the said Raphael Neale whom she has often heard talk about their grand father Anthony Neale that she well knew a mulatto woman named Patty who belonged to the said Raphael Neale who was called Patty Shorter

and

and who would talk about her freedom, when she was made mad by any of the family. That she knew the said Patty from the time she the Deponent was a child, and she was a Woman when she first knew her. and she had children older than the Deponent, two of which she remembers and they were named Nel and Betty; That she also knew other children of Patty Shorter to wit, Ned Clem and Jack and Nancy & Peggy. and Ned is now living and is owned by Mr Plowden of St Marys County that Peggy Clem & Jack are dead, but the Deponent does not know whether Nancy is dead or living; that the aforesaid Patty Shorter lived in the house with the Deponent untill John Lancaster married Betsy Neale Daughter of the aforesaid Raphael Neale when he gave her to his Daughter, and the Deponent saith that she frequently saw her after she lived with the said John Lancaster in Charles County and that she died in his possession a great many years ago. Being asked to whom Nel the Daughter of Patty belonged when she died. answers after the Death of Raphael Neale his widow gave her to Thomas Jenny who married a Daughter of the said Raphael Neale, named Betty and that Nel died at Jenys she thinks after the Death of her master, that Betty died at the aforesaid John Lancasters and Peggy at the aforesaid Jenys. Being asked if she knew any of the children of the aforesaid Nel, answers she does Jenny who belongs to Mrs Churn and who petioned against her, Jem. Brother of Jenny who belongs to Thomas Reeves; named another Brother but she does not know to whom he belongs; Jenny who belongs to Mrs Bradford and Betty who she thinks belongs to John Smith. Being asked if she knows any of Betsys Children answers. she knows Nelly who belongs to John Lancaster and Ann who belongs to the Jane Jenson, and Ned who belongs to the Widow Boarman who was a Daughter of William Neale deceased. Being asked if she knew any of Peggs children. answers she knows but one named Fanny who did belong to the aforesaid Jenny, but to whom she now belongs the Deponent knows not. Being asked if she knows any of the children of Nancy Daughter of the aforesaid Patty Shorter answers she does not that Nancy went away from the neighbourhood when she was a young woman that she belonged to John Lancaster, and was given by him to one of his Daughters who married Letty Coombs. Being asked if Patty Shorter had any sisters that the Deponent knew. answers she had one named Jenny who belonged to Roswell Neale, Brother of the aforesaid Raphael Neale, that Jenny was a Mulatto woman and the Deponent knew her when She the Deponent was a Girl: that Henny Neale Daughter of Raphael Neale married Basil Brooks and Raphael Neale her master gave her to the said Henny his Daughter before