there, when she lived in Rockey neck; that the said Comfort was always reported to be the daughter of the said Hagar, and she never heard it contradicted; and they claimed one another as mother and daughter; that the deponent is daughter of Nelly Toogood which name was the name of the deponents grand father who was the husband of Fanny Fisher the mother of Nelly aforesaid and grand mother of the deponent; that the deponent lived in Annapolis with Squire Ross in whose possession she was born; that she was acquainted at Beales plantation ever since she was a girl, and always understood that Comfort, Mother of Tom the petitioner who is now present was the daughter of Hagar who lived with William Reynolds That she well knows Beck who has petitioned against Joseph Wood, & has known her ever since she the said Beck was a little girl; that she is daughter of Ruth Fisher who lived with one Lawrence on Elk Ridge on the Barnes of Anne Arundel County; that she has known the said Ruth ever since she was a girl, and she is younger than the deponent and full sister of Comfort Mother of Tom, being daughter of Hagar as she always understood, & she never heard it contradicted; that she knew Ruth well when she lived at Rocky Neck at Beales plantation as it was called; that Hagar and Ruth always claimed one another as Mother and daughter — Sworn to this 26th October 1795 before. John Randall

Tom Toogood
vs
James Walker

Petition for freedom

Rachel Jarvis of Anne Arundel County aged about Seventy years being sworn on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God deposeth & saith that the deponent knows Tom the petitioner now present, but has only known him two or three years; that she never knew his Mother; she well knew Mary Fisher a free Mulatto woman who died the deponent thinks upwards of thirty years ago not far from Carrolls quarter, within three or four miles of Annapolis; that the deponent first knew her when she the deponent was about twenty two years old, and knew her for many years until she died; that she also well knew Hagar when she lived at William Reynolds's in Annapolis, who was always the reputed daughter of the said Mary Fisher, and they used to claim one another as Mother & daughter; and she knew the said Hagar ever since she the deponent was a young woman, and she always past as the daughter of Mary Fisher, & she often saw them together, and she never heard it contradicted that Hagar was the daughter of Mary Fisher. That the

(deponent)

deponent knew Polly daughter of Hagar ever since the deponent was a girl, & she was then called Beale's Polly, & she was younger than the deponent, and she has often seen Hagar & Polly together, & they claimed one another as mother & daughter, and Polly was always reputed the daughter of Hagar; & she never heard it contradicted; and the said Polly was the mother of Comfort who belonged to Joseph Clarke of Annapolis some few years ago, which said Comfort the deponent knew ever since the said Comfort was a child at her Mothers breast. That the deponent has live ever since she was a small girl in Anne Arundel County, and lived many years with Mr. and Mrs. Hesselius, & was well acquainted at Beale's quarter, and was frequently there. That she does not know if Tom is descended from Hagar aforesaid.

Sworn to before the Subscriber 28th October 1795. James Mackubin

Thereupon further process of and upon the premises aforesaid between the parties aforesaid by order of the Court here thereon continued until the second Tuesday of May next: the same day is given to the said parties then &c.

At which said second Tuesday of May being the tenth day of the said Month in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and ninety six, come again into the General Court here as well the said Tom Toogood by Luther Martin and Jonathan Roberts Wilmer his attornies, as the said James Walker by Ezebulon Hollingsworth and Samuel Johnston his attornies; and the said James Walker by his attornies aforesaid files in Court here the Deposition of Mrs. Elizabeth Maynadier & which said deposition is as follows, to wit:

Elizabeth Maynadier being Sworn on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God Deposeth. That she has known Nell Toogood about Thirty Years That she was set free by the Court about the year 1781. That her character whilst a Slave in Doctor Scotts family was generally bad, both as to her Honesty and Veracity; That since her leaving Doctor Scotts family this Deponent does not know any thing of the Character said Nell Toogood but from report which has been generally unfavorable and further this Deponent saith not.

Sworn before me one of the Justices of the peace for Ann Arundel County the 11th Day of May 1796. The Deponent having first read and Signed the same in my presence

Elizabeth Maynadier
John Randall.

Thereupon further process of and upon the premises aforesaid between the parties aforesaid, by order of the Court here thereon is

(further)