and between whom that was the conversation relate it fully and freely. answers she does not know nor has she heard of any conversation 8 Question Do you know and from whom that one of the children of Ann Joyce by the name of Ann Joice Croft was bound to John Chapline in the year 1791. by Prince Georges County Court answers she does not know. 9th Question do you know and have you heard and from whom what became of Ann Joyce Croft mentioned in the proceeding Question and how and for what reason and on what account she was bound out by Prince Georges County Court answers she does not know. 10th Question have you any further knowledge concerning the right of the petitioner or of any of his ancestors to freedom if you have relate it fully and freely. answers she has not. Sworn to before me the subscribed one of the associate judges of Prince Georges County Court this 17th day of October 1792.

David Cranford Associate Justice for Prince Georges County Court

John Hickman
agt
Richard Smith

Petition for freedom in the General Court.

John Wheat of Prince Georges County aged sixty two years and upwards. being sworn on the holy Evangely of Almighty God deposeth and saith that he does not know the petitioner but once knew Doctor Smith that he knew Charles Mahoney who petitioned against John Ashton but never knew him until since he petitioned being asked if he knew Ann Joice who formerly belonged to Mr. Darnall at the Woodyard answers he did not that he knew Tom Brane John Wood and Frank Herbert who he has

been informed were decendants of Ann Joice that Tom Brane and John Wood when he knew them belonged to Capt. Williams who lived at the woodyard whose widow married George Gordon that Herbert and Wood appeared to be mulattoes but Brane was of a white complexion that he has frequently heard his grandmother whose name was Sarah Perdue say that the said Brane Wood and Herbert were entitled to their freedom being asked if he ever heard her give her reasons for saying so. answers she said they were the offspring of a free woman that his said grandmother lived from the time she was first married within about two miles of the woodyard mill until she lost two husband and after their death she lived with the deponants father about four miles from the Woodyard and she often in this deponants presence conversed with this deponants father and others on the subject of Brane and Wood and Herberts right to freedom and she always said when speaking of it that they were the offspring of a free woman and he has heard her say that she had often been at the woodyard and had seen them there he has often heard his father say that he understood they were entitled to freedom but whether he knew it or had it from his mother this deponant knows not and he further saith that he has heard his said grandmother often say that she was acquainted at the Woodyard in the life time of old Colonel Henry Darnall Grandfather of the present Robert Darnall near the woodyard

April 8th 1794 Sworn before Saml. Hepburn