they wanted this kind of Servants to serve longer than they ought to serve; (that she said just so they served Anne Joyce's family, that by all accounts they are in Confinement now, and they ought to have been free long ago,) That the said Mary Hurdle was an old Woman at that time and has been dead about thirty Years; that the Deponent has always understood that the said Mary Hurdle was one hundred and two years of Age when she died; — That some of the Company asked her who Anne Joyce was and she said she came into this Country a Young Woman with Lord Baltimore, That the said Mary Hurdle then lived near Nottingham and this deponent and her husband lived with her, That she always lived in Prince Georges County as the deponent understood from her; that she came into this Country when about thirteen years old and served her time for her passage four Years in the Neighbourhood of Upper Marlborough as she had heard her say; and she has understood from Mary Hurdle that she came into this Country about the time that Lord Baltimore came in; That she recollects that she heard Mary Hurdle say that if Lord Baltimore had staid here, it would not have been so; (That she has also heard the Tuckers and Lovejoys who were old people and who are now dead talk about it, but can't recollect what they said, more than they censured those who kept them; That she heard her Mother in Law speak of Mr. Darnall and Mr. Carroll as great folks but she does not remember that she ever heard her Mother in Law say that Joice lived with Mr. Darnall or Mr. Carroll or with whom she lived, Did you ever mention the circumstances that you have above related to any person and to whom and when, She never did, she said she knew no[illegible] but what she heard from her Mother in Law. She further saith that she heard her Mother in Law say that Joice was a pretty Woman and that she was of an East India family That she understood that she came of a family that lived in the East Indias but she never saw one that came from thence and does not know whether they are White or black nor did she ever hear her Mother in Law say whether Joice was White or black,

Had you never any conversation with your daughter Priscilla who lives in the Federal City about the claim of the Petitioners or the descendants of Joice, to freedom, if you had at what time was it, and what did you inform her,

She says she never had any conversation with her daughter on the subject to the best of her recollection, and never told her any thing about it unless her daughter ever heard her lately when she was talking with the Petitioner Charles Mahony — She does not recollect to have mentioned it to any person except lately to Mr. Robert Brent who asked her if she had not given her deposition she said no and that she knew nothing that would do good or harm to any person, nothing but what she heard from her Mother in Law, Mr. Brent desired her to tell him what she knew or had heard and she did accordingly relate to him what she had heard in substance the same that she has stated in this her deposition except what she has declared upon the cross examination of John T Mason which is all stated in his hand writing and except what she has stated to have heard from the Lovejoys and the Tuckers, That her Daughter may have casually heard him speak of the subject but she never did directly and purposely converse with her said Daughter about it,

To the best of her Memory she never had any conversation with her Daughter on the subject:

This Deponent did not consider any thing she had heard her Mother say could operate one way or the other, The Tuckers she speaks of was Thomas Tucker and Mary his Wife who lived on Patuxent about ten Miles from Nottingham which was the nearest town they had to go and they have both been dead upwards of forty Years and near fifty Years, The Lovejoys she heard it from was Joseph Lovejoy and his Wife Ann they lived in the same Neighbourhood of Thomas Tucker and the Deponts. Mother in Law, that they too have been dead upwards of forty years, (That her Mother in Law also lived in that Neighbourhood, & (That the Lovejoys Tuckers and her Mother in Law were old English people and used to meet and talk together on the subject of Joice, (That they lived about half way between Piscattaway and Nottingham That her Mother in laws name before she was married was Mary Watson,

Sworn to before me this 28th. May 1797. James Mackubin.

This deposition to be read in evidence in any of the petitions brought by persons claiming freedom as descendants of Ann Joice if the Witness dies or is unable to attend Court.

(vide page 34. for the Deposition of Henry Davis marked No. D. to come in before the following)

John Johnson for petr.
John T. Mason for Masters

Charles Mahony
a
John Ashton

Petition for freedom in the General Court.

The Deposition of Nicholas Lowe Darnall aged 64 Years being first duly sworn on the holy Evangels of Almighty God deposeth and saith, That about four Years ago he the Deponent received a Letter from Doctr. Richard Smith informing him that his man John, some of Ashton's people, and some of Frank Worley's had been with Samuel Sheckells to enquire of him whether he knew Ann Joice and if she did not come into this Country with Lord Baltimore and live with Col. Darnall, at the request of said Doctr. Smith he the Deponent went to Samuel Sheckell and enquired of him if the said Negroes had been with him and what knowledge he had of the said Ann Joice, That the said Samuel Sheckell then informed the Deponent the said Negroes had been with him to make the said enquiry but that he the said Sheckell had told them that he knew nothing of Ann Joice, and had never heard of her which he again repeated to the Deponent and added that he knew nothing of Lord Baltimore or Col. Darnall but had heard there were such men.

Sworn to in open Court this 28th of May 1797. Jno. Gwinn, Clk.

This deposition to be read in evidence in all or any of the petitions brought by those claiming to be descended from Ann Joice, if the Witness dies or is unable to attend Court.

John Johnson for Petrs.
John T. Mason for Defts.

Mr. Darnall further deposeth that on the 28th May 1797. Mr. John Johnson, the deponent Mrs. Hurdle, Mr. Talbut and and two of the petitioners being present; and all that were present Mr. John Johnson asked Talbutt some questions relative to the subject upon which he was about to give his deposition; that he Mr. Darnall touched Talbutt on the foot and took him into the passage and told him that he ought not to answer any question until the Attorney for the opposite party was also present. Admitted without being Sworn to. Jno. Johnson for Pts.
John T Mason for Masters.