6. Intg. Ans.rs. he does not know of any of that Name, that lived with Mr. Ashton.

7. Intg. Ans.rs. he knew one Sue who died at Mr. Digges and who he beleaves was the Daughter of the Joyce he knew, does not know Mary the daughter of Sue.

8. Intg. Ans.rs. he did not know nothing of this Intg.

9. Intg. Ans.rs. No.

10. Intg. Ans.rs. No, he never heard of an, Ann Joyce till lately.

11. Intg. Ans.rs. he knows nothing more about it.

Being ask'd if he ever understood that the Joyce he knew was ever in England, Answers he never did,

Henry Hill

Sworn to before me, one of the Justices of the Peace for Prince Georges County this 14 April 1792.

John Smith Brookes.

Prince Georges County, to wit;

Personally appeared before me the Subscriber one of the Justices of the peace for the County aforesaid, Samuel Hepburn Esq.r also one of the Justices of the peace for the same, and made Oath on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God, that Mrs. Ann Cooke, of the same County, who on the Seventeenth day of October 1792, deposed before this deponent, in a suit depending in the General Court between Charles Mahoney Plaintiff and John Ashton Defendant was to the best of this Deponants belief and Judgment of sound mind and perfect Memory, at the time when the deposition as aforesaid was taken. Swarn this 27th June 1797.

Before Robt. Bowie

Prince Georges County, to wit, Personally appeared before me the Subscriber one of the Justices of the Peace for the County aforesaid, Robert Bowie Esq.r also one of the Justices of the peace for the County aforesaid and made Oath on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God that Mrs. Ann Cooke of the same County, who on the Twenty Eighth day of May 1796, deposed before me this Deponent in a suit depending in the General Court between Charles Mahony Plaintiff and John Ashton Defendant was to the best of this Deponant's beleif and Judgment of sound Mind and perfect Memory, at the time when the deposition as aforesaid was taken,

Sworn this 27th June 1797. Before,

Sam.l Hepburn.

The Deposition of Sarah Ratcliff aged about forty one Years or thereabouts being first duly Sworn on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God deposeth and saith, That she this Deponent is the Daughter of Rachel Ratcliff, the person mentioned by that Name in the deposition of Eben Paramore taken and filed in a cause in which Charles Mahoney hath petitioned for his freedom against John Ashton, Being asked if she the Deponent knows the said Eben Paramore? Answers she has seen him but once that she recollects and then he was passing on the public Road and this Deponent was then told his Name, Being asked if the said Rachel Ratcliff, ever washed the Linnen or did any other Work for the said Paramore? Answers, that her Mother Rachel Ratcliff, never did Wash or do any kind of Work for the said Eben Paramore; that she

this Deponent is confident her Mother never did see the said Paramore, or ever had any acquaintance with him, The said Deponent further saith that her said Mother lived with the Deponent since she has been grown a Woman and until her said Mothers Death, That her said Mother was old and very infirm and for fifteen or sixteen Years, before her Death was incapable of doing any Work except knitting, (That the Deponent used to Wash and do the other necessary Work for her Mother who never was from the House of the Deponent for many Years before her Death and the said Paramore was never at the Deponents House to her knowledge or belief. Being asked if her Mother ever lived near the Woodyard in Prince Georges County? Answers, that her Mother never did live near the Woodyard to the knowledge information or belief of her the said Deponent, Being asked if any person and whom ever applied to her Mother to enquire of her knowledge respecting the freedom of any and what Negroes? Answers that Thomas Tillard and Richard Richardson did once apply to her Mother but she told them she knew nothing of the freedom of any Negroes whatever, or of any that were intituled to their freedom. That Mrs. Andersons Negro Woman Maria did also apply to her Mother the said Rachel Ratcliff to enquire about her Title to freedom but her Mother told Maria she knew nothing about it and if she was intituled to freedom it was what she did not know Sworn before

Thos. Tongue

July 21st 1797.

This deposition, if the deponant is unable to attend Court, is admitted to be read in Evidence in the petitions for freedom, depending in the General Court, where the petitioners claim their freedom as being descended from Anne Joyce.

Jno. Johnson for petitioners
John T. Mason for Defts.

Charles Mahony
a
John Ashton

Petition for freedom in the General Court.

The Deposition of John Lambeth aged about fifty five Years being first duly Sworn on the Holy Evangels of Almighty God deposeth and saith, That he the Deponent is the Son of Rachel Ratcliff deceased, (That he the Deponent knows Eben Paramore, Being asked if his Mother ever washed or did any other Work for the said Paramore? Answers he is quite certain she never did and that she never saw the said Paramore or had any acquaintance with him, This Deponent further saith that his Mother lived with his Sister Sarah Ratcliff for many Years before his said Mothers Death and that for fifteen or Sixteen Years before she died she was incapable of Washing or doing her own Work which was done by the Deponents Sister Sarah Ratcliff, the Deponent further saith that he has never heard of the said Paramore's being at the house of the said Sarah and is very sure he never was there as the Deponent lives within two or three hundred yards of his Sisters House and should probably have heard of it if the fact had been so The Deponent further saith his Mother lived in blue Stint Neck near Pigg point about forty Years, Being asked what was the general character of the said Eben Paramore in the Neighbourhood where the Deponent lives? Answers that it is a very bad one, Sworn before Thos. Tongue.

July 21st 1797.