This deposition if the Deponent 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 Ann Joyce

Jno. Johnson for petitioners
John T. Mason for Defts

Charles Mahoney
ag.
John Ashton

The Deposition of James Mullikin of Prince Georges County aged about fifty five years, who being Sworn deposeth and saith, that he is acquainted with John Wheat, a Witness whose Deposition this Deponent hath been informed, hath been taken in the above Cause. that his Acquaintance with Wheat is of near thirty Years standing he having Married this Deponents Sister. That so far as his knowledge and belief extends he is of opinion that the said Wheat is entitled to Credit, and that he never heard any thing to the prejudice of his character, as a man of Veracity, till since he hath been summoned as a Witness in this Cause, and he hath lately been informed, that his the said Wheats character hath been impeached by the Testimony of a certain Nathaniel Talbott. That this Deponent hath not seen the said Wheat but two or three times within these Seven or Eight Years past. This Deponent also saith, that he is of opinion from his knowledge of Wheat, that he would not take a false Oath; This Deponent further saith, that he resides about fifteen Miles from Wheat, and did not frequent his House very often

Sworn to in open Court this 27. Octr. 1797. Jno. Irwin, Clk.

This deposition to be read in Evidence

Jno. Johnson for pet.
W. Cooke for Defd.

The deposition of John Clagett of Edward taken by consent to be read in Evidence in the sundry petitions now depending in the General Court brought by persons claiming to be descended from Joice formerly in the possession of Col. Henry Darnall for freedom.

The Deponent being 65 Years of age the 28th. of August last past old style and being duly Sworn deposeth and saith that Edward Clagett his father who lived in Prince Georges died about the Year 1788 as well as he remembers. That he this Deponent saith that he knew John Wood and Jack Crane who lived at the Wood yard as he understood and was present in Court when they received Sentence of Death for killing their Overseer as it was said. That this Deponent was married when this event took place and that he was in his twenty fourth Year when he was Married, but when they were hanged he cannot now precisely ascertain. That after this event took place he has frequently at times heard his father Edward Clagett speak of John Wood and Jack Crane but never to the best of his knowledge heard him say or intimate that they the said Wood and Crane or either of them were born free or descended of a White Woman or in any manner entitled to freedom. That he this Deponent never to the best of his knowledge heard his said father say one word about the Indenture or the burning of the Indenture mentioned in the Deposition of Peter Knight in these cases taken, That he never heard his said father to the best of his knowledge speak of a person by the name of Moll Crane, That he this Deponent never heard of a Woman by that name that he recollects until

the other day he heard of such a person from one of the Petitioners, John Hickman, That this Deponents father lived and died between Upper Marlbrough and the Woodyard and same where about two or three Miles from Marlbrough. That this Deponent lived with his father until he this Deponent was married except some few Years that he was at School that he then moved away and lived near Queen Ann until the Year 1783, when he moved into Ann Arundel, That this Deponent never knew any other Edward Clagett but his Father, except a Nephew of his said Father who died many Years ago quite a Young man, That this Deponent was frequently at his Father's house after he this Deponent was married, That this Deponent never knew Peter Knight nor does he know that he ever saw him

Sworn to before me 24 Octr. 1797. John Randall

And as well the aforesaid Charles Mahoney as the said John Ashton by their Attornies aforesaid file in Court here, the following Admission, to wit:

It is admitted that William Diggs' Sue a Mullatto Woman, David a Carpenter, Frank Herbert, Jack Wood and Tom Crane all four Mullatto Men were the children of Joice who died at the Wood yard, and who together with her Children above named were in the possession of Henry Darnall of Ann Arundel County. That the above named Sue was the Mother of Warrens Polly, Hills Nelly and Carrolls Sue. That Carroll's Sue was the Mother of Nelly who was the Mother of Charles and Patrick Mahoney the petitioners

Jno. Johnson for Pet.
John T. Mason, for Deft.

And the said John Ashton by Luther Martin his Attorney comes and defends the force and injury when &c and says that the said Charles Mahoney is the proper Slave of him the said John Ashton without that that the said Charles is a free Man and of free condition and this he is ready to verify wherefore he prays Judgment if the said Charles his Action aforesaid to have or maintain ought &c.

And the said Charles Mahoney by John Johnson his Attorney says that he by anything by the said John Ashton in his plea above pleaded from having his Action aforesaid against him ought not to be precluded because he says that he the said Charles is a free Man and of free condition and this he prays may be enquired of by the Country and the said John Ashton in like manner and so forth. Therefore let a Jury thereon appear before the Judges of the Court here, immediately, by whom and so forth, and who neither and so forth, to recognize and so forth, because as well and so forth. (Thereupon the Honorable Gabriel Duvall one of the Judges of the Court here withdraws from the Bench having been former Council for the aforesaid Charles Mahoney the petitioner.) And the Jurors of the Jury whereof mention is above made, being called come, that is to say; Thomas Hodgkin, Thomas Barber, William D. Taylor, James Lawrence, John Partridge, Henry McPherson, Charles Baker, John Love, Samuel Coats, Joseph Harwood, Jacob Bayer and Thomas Blackiston; Whereupon certain of them that is to say, John Partridge, Charles Baker, John Love and Samuel Coats are sworn upon that Jury; and because the rest of the said Jurors so appearing being, according to the Act of Assembly in such case provided,