

Brown with the assent and at the request of the said
 Mc Lane Brown in writing testified by his signature
 to this instrument of writing and the said Mc Lane
 Brown have granted, bargained and sold, and by these
 presents do grant, bargain and sell unto the said
 Evan Hughes his executors, administrators and
 assigns, Negro boy Frank Thomas for and during the
 period of twenty five years from the eleventh day of
 August eighteen hundred and fifty four. To have
 and to hold the said negro boy for and during the
 period above mentioned, (the said boy Frank Thomas
 being now about ten years of age) unto the said Evan
 Hughes his executors, administrators and assigns,
 and the said Zachariah Brown and Mc Lane
 Brown for themselves their executors and adminis-
 trators, do covenant to and with the said Evan
 Hughes his executors, administrators and assigns
 that he will warrant and defend the said negro
 boy Frank Thomas, during the period and term
 for which he is hereby sold and conveyed to the said
 Evan Hughes his heirs, executors, administrators
 and assigns, against the claim, right, title, or
 demand of all and every person or persons whatsoever.
 And the said Mc Lane Brown doth hereby release
 from slavery, liberate, manumit and set free the said
 negro boy Frank Thomas who was nine years of age
 on the eleventh day of August eighteen hundred and
 fifty three, and able to work and gain a sufficient
 livelihood and maintenance at and from the
 termination of the said period of twenty five years
 from the said eleventh day of August in the year
 aforesaid, and he does declare the said negro to be
 free, manumitted and discharged from all manner
 of servitude or service to him his executors or adminis-
 trators, from and after the termination of the term
 and period aforesaid. In witness whereof the
 said Zachariah Brown, Mc Lane Brown and the
 said Evan Hughes have hereunto set their hands
 and seals the day and year first herein before written.

Signed, sealed and
 delivered in the presence of
 of Ignatius Waterman, Pean
 E. U. Talbot

Zachariah Brown (Seal)
 Mc Lane Brown (Seal)
 Evan Hughes (Seal)

State of Maryland Howard County to wit: Be it
 remembered, and it is hereby certified, that on this