

before me one of the Justices of the peace for the County
aforesaid and acknowledged the aforesaid instrument
of writing as his act and deed according to the true
intent and meaning thereof. acknowledged before.

Lewis Duwall

Recorded the 23rd day of August 1803.

Know all men by these presents
to } that I Arthur Shaaff, of Annapolis
John Wilkes } and Ann Arundel County in
the State of Maryland for divers good causes
and considerations me thereunto moving, and
for the sum of one penny current money have released,
manumitted, liberated and set free, and by these
presents do hereby release from slavery,
manumit, liberate and set free at the following
period my mulattoe man slave John Wilkes:
the said Slave to be free on the ninth day of March
next ensuing the date of these presents, and
the said John Wilkes residing with me in Annapolis
in the County and State aforesaid, and being of
a healthy constitution, and sound in mind
and body, and capable by labour to procure himself
sufficient food and Raiment with other
requisite necessaries of life and not exceeding
forty five years of age: And I do hereby declare
the said mulattoe man slave John Wilkes to be
from the said ninth day of March, free,
manumitted and discharged from all manner
of servitude or service to me, my executors

or