State of Maryland, Alleghany County, to wit :

I hereby certify that Thomas Thistle, Esquire, before whom the aforegoing deposition appears to have been made, and who has thereto subscribed his name, was at the time of taking and signing the same, one of the state of Maryland's justices of the peace in and for Alleghany county aforesaid, duly commissioned and sworn. And, to all his acts as such, due faith and credit is, and ought to be given as well in courts of justice as thereout.

In testimony whereof, I have hereto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of Alleghany county court, this eighteenth day of July, in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and seven, and thirty second year of the Independence of the United States of America.

JOHN LYNN, Clk.
Of Alleghany County.

STATE OF MARYLAND,
Allegany county, sst.

William Macneer being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposeth and sayeth, it is about twelve years ago, when he was employed as an overseer, by Upton Bruce, son of Normand Bruce, who then lived with his father, on the farm at Pipe Creek, of which he then had the management, his father giving it into his hands, and that, among the lads under his direction, was one of a very bright color, like a very dark white man, and plainly shewed the mixture and as descending from white and black parents—that among the female slaves was one called Phillis, who acknowledged this boy as her child, and no doubt could be of the fact, and was so universally known by the whole family and neighborhood. His mother was a dark mulatto, and his father, as was well understood, was Andrew Ware, who I knew well. This boy was as much a slave to Mr. Bruce as any other he had, and no doubt was suggested to the contrary that ever I heard, nor was his origin or birth questioned —that he is by guess five feet seven inches high, rather slender made, his hair rather curly, and his age, to the best of this deponent's knowledge, is now about thirty years—that he understood he made some agreement with his master, by which he was suffered to go at large ; and the last time this deponent recollects to have seen him was driving a team on the Baltimore road, between six and seven years ago—that he then passed by the name of Romulus, and this deponent understood he afterwards took to the sea.

WILLIAM McNAIR.

The within sworn to this 17th of day July, 1807, before me, one of the justices of the peace for Allegany county aforesaid.

ANDREW BRUCE.

STATE OF MARYLAND,
Allegany county, to wit :

I hereby certify, that Andrew Bruce, Esq. before whom the depositions hereto annexed appear to have been taken, and who has thereto subscribed his name, was at the time of taking and signing the same, one of the state of Maryland justices of the peace, in and for Allegany county aforesaid, duly commissioned and sworn, and to all his acts as such, due faith and credit is, and ought to be given as well in courts of justice as thereout.

In testimony whereof I have hereto subscribed my name, and affixed the seal of Allegany county court, this eighteenth day of July, in the year of our Lord, eighteen hundred and seven, and thirty second year of the Independence of the United States of America.

JOHN LYNN, Clk. of Al. co'ty.

STATE OF MARYLAND,
Allegany county, ss.

Sarah Lewis being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposeth and sayeth, that she lived many years in Frederick county, of this state —that she lived in the neighborhood of Normand Bruce's family, was well acquainted there—and that among his servants she well recollects having noticed a very bright mulatto child, approaching nearer to white than any mulatto she ever saw—that at the time she first noticed this child, he was about four or five years old—that his birth or origin she never heard doubted his being the child of Phillis, a dark mulatto woman (slave to Normand Bruce, who lived on Pipe Creek) by Andrew Ware, a white man—that she knew the said child from that time until he grew up, and reached near the age of twenty—that during that time he remained in the family of the said Bruce as his slave, upon the same footing and treated as his other slaves—that when he grew up he was not a large man, being spare, a round or flatish face—that he must now be about thirty years of age or upwards—that then he passed and was called by the name of Romulus—that his mother had a daughter by the same father, as was acknowledged and as appeared from her color and resemblance to her brother. He left the service of his master by his permission or some agreement, I suppose, and as I understood afterwards went to sea.

her
SARAH ⋈ LEWIS,
mark.

Sworn to this 17th day of July, 1807, before me, one of the justices of the peace for Allegany county aforesaid.

ANDREW BRUCE.

STATE OF MARYLAND,
Allegany county, to wit :

William Bruce being sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposeth and sayeth, that about the age of twelve years he went to Frederick county, and lived with his uncle, Normand Bruce, on Pipe Creek, for several years, going occasionally to school—that among the other servants, he well remembers a remarkably bright mulatto boy, or he might pass for a very dark, swarthy white one. This boy I always understood was the son of a slave, named Phillis, by a white man, called Andrew Ware. I never heard to the contrary, nor can I doubt it, the boy acknowledging this Phillis as his mother, and she receiving him as her child, and it was so admitted and understood by the whole family and neighborhood. I knew this boy for several years afterwards, & until he grew up. He was in height about five feet five or six inches, his hair dark and somewhat curly, and his make thin. He went by the name of Romulus, and I know of no particular mark to distinguish him, except a scar on one of his thumbs, I think occassioned by a bite in some fight he had, and is now I suppose about twenty eight or thirty years of age—and further this deponent saith not

WILLIAM BRUCE.

Sworn and subscribed to this 18th day of July, 1807, before

GEORGE RIZER.

STATE OF MARYLAND,
Allegany county, to wit :

I hereby certify, that George Rizer, Esq. before whom the within deposition appears to have been made, and who has subscribed his name thereto, was at the time of so doing one of the state of Maryland justices of the peace, in and for Allegany county aforesaid, duly commissioned and sworn ; and to all his acts as such, due faith and credit is and ought to be given, as well in courts of justice as thereout.

In testimony whereof, I have hereto subscribed my name, and affixed the seal of Allegany county court, this 18th day of July, in the year of our Lord, eighteen hundred and seven, and thirty second year of the Independence of the United States of America.

JOHN LYNN, Clk, Al. co'ty.

☞ The deposition of Greenbury Griffin, of Talbot county, and the state of Maryland, aged about thirty seven years, taken before William Lindsey, Gentleman, one of the Justices of the peace for Queen Ann's county, duly commissioned, and qualified as such, this 4th day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seven, saith, that John Strahan or Strawhan, the son of Samuel Strawhan, of Queen Ann's county and state of Maryland, was bound to him to the sea service, about the year eighteen hundred and two, (as the indenture will show, which will be procured as part of this deponents information) that the said John left the said Greenbury about the year eighteen hundred and four, at Norfolk ; at this time he was sailing with a certain captain John Kemp, from Trinidad to Norfolk aforesaid—that this deponent has not seen the said John Strahan since—that the said John Strahan has a light sandy complexion, and looks older than he really is, and a pretty well made man.

Sworn before me the day and year aforesaid.

WM. LINDSEY.

The State of Maryland,
Queen Ann's County, to wit:

I do hereby certify all whom it doth or may concern, that William Lindsey, Gentleman, before whom the within deposition appears to have been taken and who hath subscribed his name, was at the time of so doing, and still is one of the justices of the peace of the state of Maryland, in and for the county aforesaid, duly commissioned and sworn, and to all acts done by him as such due faith and credit is and ought to be given as well in courts of Justice as thereout.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed *S.L.* the public seal of my said office, this sixth day of August, Anno Domini eight hundred and seven.

SAMUEL T. WRIGHT, Clk,
of Queen Ann's County Court.

This indenture made the 20th day of March, in the year of our Lord, 1802, witnesseth that John Strawhan of Queen Ann's county, aged seventeen years and ten months, hath of his own free and voluntary will, placed and bound himself apprentice unto Greenberry Griffin, of Talbot county, waterman, to learn the said trade, mystery, or occupation of a waterman, which he the said Greenberry Griffin now useth, and with him as an apprentice to dwell, continue and serve, from the day of the date hereof, unto the full end and term of three years and two months from thence next ensuing, and fully to be completed and ended, during all which term of three years and two months, the said apprentice, his said master well and faithfully shall serve, his secrets keep, his lawful commands gladly do and obey, hurt to his said master he shall not do, nor wilfully suffer to be done by others, but of the same, to the utmost of his power, shall forthwith give notice to his said master —the goods of his said master he shall not embezzle nor waste, nor them lend, without his consent, to any, at cards, dice, or any other unlawful games he shall not play, taverns or ale houses he shall not frequent, fornication he shall not commit, matrimony he shall not contract, from the service of his said master he shall not at any time depart or absent himself without his said master's leave, but in all things as a good and faithful apprentice, shall and will demean and behave himself towards his said master, and all his, during the said term and the said master, in consideration of the sum of thirty pounds of lawful money of Maryland, to him in hand paid by his said apprentice in the said trade, mystery or occupation of a watermau, which he now useth, with all things thereunto belonging, shall and will teach, instruct, or cause to be well and sufficiently taught and instructed, after the best way and manner he can, and shall and will also find and allow unto his said apprentice meat, drink, washing, lodging and wearing apparel, and all other necessaries fit and convenient for such an apprentice, and also the said master is to give unto the said apprentice six months schooling, within the said term. In witness whereof, either of the parties have hereunto set their hands the day and year within written.

JOHN STRAWHAN,
GREENBERRY GRIFFIN.

Witness,
John Merchant, Tho's Lambdin, John McDaniel.

Rec'd 21st March, 1802.

In Orphan's Court, April 13th, 1802. The within indenture was examined and approved.

Cert'd per
J. PRICE, Reg. of Wills.

Talbot County, sst.

In testimony that the within is truly copied from Liber J. P. No. A, folios 247 and 248, one of the record books belonging to my office, I have hereunto set my hand and the seal of my office affixed, this twenty first day of August, Anno Domini, eighteen hundred and seven.

Test, JA. PRICE,
Reg. of wills for Talbot county.

The deposition of James Roe Pratt, of Queen Anne's county, and state of Maryland, aged about forty five years, taken before William Lindsey, gentleman, one of the justices of the peace for the said county, duly commissioned and qualified as such, this fourth day of August, in the year eighteen hundred and seven, saith, that he is well acquainted with Samuel Strahan, and his son John Strahan, who he understood was bound to Greenburg Griffin ; that the said John is a well made man, and has a sandy complexion—and further saith not.

Sworn before me this day and year aforesaid.

WM. LINDSEY.

The deposition of John Price, of Kent Island, in Queen Anne's county, and state of Maryland, aged about forty one years, taken before William Lindsey, gentleman, one of the justices of the peace for said county, the fourth day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seven, saith, that he was well acquainted with Samuel Strahan, late of Queen Anne's county, and his son John Strahan—that the said John Strahan was a well made young man, and had a sandy complexion—that this deponent knows nothing of his going to sea, or any thing of him for many years, until the late information of his being pressed into the British service.

Sworn before me the day and year aforesaid.

WM. LINDSEY.

The deposition of Thomas Lynch, of Queen Anne's county, and state of Maryland, aged about forty-seven years, taken before William Lindsey, gentleman, one of the justices of the peace for said county, the fourth day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seven, saith, that he is well acquainted with the aforesaid Samuel Strahan, and his son John, who was bound apprentice to the aforesaid Greenburg Griffin, as the father had frequently informed him—that the said Samuel Strahan lived at the tan-yard of Mr. Tilghman, between Centreville and Queen's Town, and that John Strahan, the son of the said Samuel was born there—that he was a well made young man when he left his father—and has a sandy complexion—and that he had pretty good information in the tanning business.

Sworn before me the day and year aforesaid.

WM. LINDSEY.

The deposition of Samuel Strahan or Strawhan, as generally called here, of Caroline county, and state of Maryland, aged about fifty-six years, taken before William Lindsey, gentleman, one of the justices of the peace for Queen Anne's county, duly commissioned and qualified as such, this fourth day of August, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and seven, saith, that he has, or had a son called John Strahan or Strawhan, as they are called here, born about the fourteenth day of April, seventeen hundred and eighty four, as well as he recollects, that this son was bound apprentice to a certain Greenburg Griffin, who was then a seaman, and employed in the West India business, as he understood, that he has never seen his said son since, nor heard from him for several years, until the notification from the government of the United States—that this son was pretty well made, and had a light sandy complexion, and that he was born at the tan-yard, belonging to a certain William Tilghman, on the public road from Centreville to Queen's Town.

Sworn before me the day and year aforesaid.

WM. LINDSEY.

[Each of the foregoing depositions is accompanied by a similar certificate of office, as the first.]

The following is extracted from the signatures to the original articles of agreement and roll of equipage of the schooner Eagle, Greenbury Griffin, master, bound from Norfolk to St. Bartholomew.

" Aug. 9th—John Strauhwan, Queen's county, Maryland."

I BENJAMIN DAVIS of Westport in the county of Bristol and Commonwealth of Massachusetts, yeoman, being legally qualified to give evidence, do depose and say, that about fourteen or fifteen years ago, William Howland, late of said Westport, mariner, deceased, brought to Westport with him a colored boy, then about six years of age ; that the name of the said boy was Daniel Martin, that he was bound to the said William, as an apprentice or servant, under the authority of the laws of this Commonwealth, by the selectmen & overseers of the poor of said town of Westport, and the indentures were executed at the house of this deponent ; that the said Daniel was afterwards, on his arrival at the age of fourteen years, an apprentice or servant of Nancy Howland, widow and relict of said William Howland, and it is now about seven years since I have seen the said Daniel. He was then of a common stature, straight built, and without any prominent marks by which to describe his person. It was always understood by me that the said Daniel was from some Spanish settlement in America.

BENJAMIN DAVIS.

United States of America, Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Bristol, ss.

On this 13th day of July, 1807, before me Eli Haskell, notary public, duly elected and qualified, and dwelling in the town of New Bedford ; personally appeared Benjamin Davis, esq. and made solemn oath, to the truth of the foregoing statement of affidavit by him subscribed.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and notarial seal, L. S. in such cases used, the day and year first written.

ELI HASKELL, Not. Pub.

I NANCY HOWLAND of New Bedford in the county of Bristol and commonwealth of Massachusetts, widow and relict of William Howland, late of Westport in said county, mariner, do depose and say that in the month of August in the year of our Lord seventeen hundred and ninety-two, according to the best of my recollection, my said husband brought with him on a voyage from Buenos Ayres, Daniel Martin, a colored, boy, then in the seventh year of his age, who was bound to him as an apprentice or servant by his mother ; that after the death of my said husband and at the arrival of said Daniel at the age of fourteen years, he bound himself by a law of this commonwealth, to me the deponent, and after living with me about one year, left me, and since that time I have never seen or heard from the said Daniel until the application to take this testimony. At the time the said Daniel left me, he was of about a common stature, and I do not now recollect any peculiar marks by which he could be readily described, he was very straight at that time. The indentures by which he was bound, by accident and length of time are mislaid or lost.

NANCY HOWLAND.

United States of America, commonwealth of Massachusetts, Bristol, ss.

On this 13th day of July, 1807, before me Eli Haskell, notary public, duly elected and qualified, and dwelling in the town of New Bedford, personally appeared Nancy Howland, and made solemn oath, to the truth of the foregoing statement of affidavit, by her subscribed.

In testimony whereof, I have hereunto set my hand, and affixed my L. S. notarial seal, the day and year above written.

ELI HASKELL, Not. Pub.

The following is extracted from the Portage-bill of the ship Caledonia, Francis Mahaly, master, who sailed about the 25th of January, 1802, for Canton, and returned about 13th March, 1803.

" Daniel Martin—seaman—shipped, January 24, 1802—discharged March 14, 1803—time on board, 13 months, 17 days—12 dollars a month—total wages 162 dollars, 75 cents."

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