

Claim of James D. Denton
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State of Maryland – Calvert County – to wit:

Be it remembered that on this Twenty Second day of January in the year eighteen hundred & twenty eight personally appeared Mrs. Eliza -beth Bowen before the subscriber a Justice of the Peace of the State & for the County aforesaid & makes oath on the Holy Evan -gely of Almighty God that before – during – & since the late war between the United States & Great Britain – she this Deponent frequently visited at the house of Mr. James D. Denton of the State & County aforesaid & was & still is well acquainted with the slaves of the said James D Denton & that in the year eighteen hundred & fourteen a negro woman belonging to the said James D. Denton who was about twenty years of age at that time & who was commonly called “Rachael Banister” absconded & went to the British Fleet which then lay in the River Patux -ent as this Deponent verily believes – This Deponent hath frequently heard the said negro woman called “Rachael Fields” – at which she seemed to be offended - & generally insisted that her surname was “Banister” & not “Fields” - & further this Deponent saith not –

Sworn before
Aquilla G Bowen



The agent refers the Board of Commissioners to the Halifax list Page 68
For the name of “Ratchel Banister”

Marbury
agent for claimant

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State of Maryland – Calvert County

Col John Broome & Mr. James M. Broome
being first duly sworn depose & say, that
in the year eighteen hundred & fourteen
in the month of August, they saw negro Ra
-chael the slave of Mr. James D. Denton of
the state & county aforesaid – aged about eighteen
years – in company with, or in the possession
of the British - & worth about three hundred
dollars - & further say not – Given under our
hands this twenty fourth day of April in the
year eighteen hundred & twenty one –

Signed John Broome
James M Broome

Be it remembered that on this twenty
fourth day of April in the year of our
Lord one thousand eight hundred & twenty
one – Col Jn Broome & Mr. James M. Broome
made oath on the Holy Evangely of Almighty
God to the truth of the above deposition
to the best of their knowledge, recollection
& belief – Before the subscriber a Justice
of the Peace for Calvert County in the state
of Maryland

Wm. C. Dawkins

State of Maryland, Calvert County Sc.

I Hereby certify that William C. Dawkins
Gentleman before whom the above depositions were made and taken and
who has thereto subscribed his name was at the time of so doing one of
the Justices of the peace of the said State in and for Calvert County

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aforesaid duly commissioned and Sworn.

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto
subscribed my name and affixed the Seal of
my office this sixteenth day of May in the
year of our Lord Eighteen hundred and
twenty one ---

William S. Morsell Clk
of Calvert County Court

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Slaves Dep.

Denton, James D. – Calvert Co. Md.

24 April 1821

recd 26 May “

1 Dep’n (J. Broome & J.M. Brome) – 1 slave
Rachel, 18 y. \$300

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State of Maryland – Calvert County – to wit

Be it remembered that on this Twenty Second day of January in the year eighteen hundred & twenty eight personally appear James Denton upwards of twenty one years of age & George Denton upwards of eighteen years of age & sons of James D. Denton of the State & County aforesaid & made oath on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God that in the year eighteen hundred & fourteen as well as they remember – negro “Rachael Fields” or “Banister” belonging to their father James D. Denton who is now in full life absconded & a short time afterwards returned home in company with British soldiers in arms & demanded her clothes & went off again with the said British soldiers & several times passed & repassed with other British soldiers & pillaged fruit & other things & finally went off with the said soldiers & hath not since returned to the service of the said James D. Denton & further these Deponents say not - Sworn before

Aquilla C. Bowen

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James D. Denton appears on the Definitive list at page 15 as a claimant for one negro named Ratchael

He proves by the depositions of John Brooke & James M. Broome, that they saw negro Ratchael the slave of the claimant, some time in the month of August 1814, in the possession of the British – By the deposition of Elizabeth Bowen, that she was & is well acquainted with the slaves of the claimant, that in the year 1814 as negro woman the property of the claimant, being about 20 years of age and commonly called “Ratchael Bannister” absconded from her master & went to the British fleet, then in the Patuxent River – that this negro was sometimes called Fields – but generally called herself “Bannister” – He further proves by the joint depositions of James & George Denton, that after she absconded Ratchael returned to her masters house in company with British soldiers & several times passed & repassed in their company & finally went off with them & has not since returned – ~~it is further proved by their Depositions [illegible]~~

The claimant is without other proof as to the time when the negro Ratchael was taken from the U States, than that afforded by the Halifax list of American negroes, recieved [sic] into that province, “from the U States of America” after the 27 April 1815, on that list at page 68 the name of “Ratchael Bannister” is found whose age on the list agrees very nearly with the age of the claimants negro – the unusual surname, & the correspondance [sic] in the ages of the two, leave no room to doubt that they are the same

John Marbury

Attorney for Claimant