John McGrain
County Historian
Landmarks Preservation Commission
Baltimore County Office of Planning

November 2005
ACCIDENT TO A SLAVE

“Accident. A colored boy, the property of Mr. Aquilla Talbott, near this place, was killed on Saturday last. He was playing about the horse power of a thrashing machine when he happened to be caught between the cog-wheels, which crushed him to death.”

— Baltimore County Advocate, Cockeysville, September 4, 1852

ADAMS, SAMUEL

Sale of Negro boy, Samuel Adams, property of Thomas Fulton, at Washington Factory. [present Mount Washington]

— Baltimore County Advocate, February 1, 1851

ADDISON, CAROLINE

“Roslyn items...reports that aged colored woman, “Aunt” Caroline Addison...died at age 104...the city paper interviewed her several years ago and claimed she was then 112...she did quilt patch work...services at St. Alphonsus, Woodstock...lived at Granite...Mass by Fr. Mulvaney, S.J.

— Union News, Towson, February 24, 1917, p. 8

AFRICA

“Africa” as a place name was found in an 1852 Methodist preaching plan. The residential area around Mt. Gilboa A.M.E. Church was also called “Africa” in 1877 court testimony (Judicial Record, JB 54:304-305).

AFRICAN M. E. CHURCH (15)

Cornerstone of African M. E. Church at Sparrows Point...

— Maryland Journal, October 4, 1890
“AFRO MOBILE”

Photo of a boardwalk roller chair in a Florida resort...to be pushed by human power...the “Afro Mobile”.

— *Sun*, November 9, 1906, p. 14

ALEXANDER

The Negro Alexander, convicted of murder in Baltimore County court...to be hung on February 26...

— *Republican & Argus*, November 20, 1846

ANNIS, ZEBEDEE

Zebedee Annis, “an old and respected colored man died here last week.” “Daddy Zeb’ was said to be a resident of Hereford and a reader of the *Baltimore County Advocate*.

— *Maryland Journal*, January 9, 1875.

ANTI-BLACK PACT

“Four Churches Sign Segregation Pact, Lafayette Square Section Now Believed Virtually Safe from Negro Invasion.” [Agreement not to sell churches to African Americans.]

— *Sun*, April 23, 1924
ANTI-BLACK POLITICS


—Sun, October 26, 1899, p. 1

Same campaign, a four-page supplement about rapes and crime.

—Maryland Journal, Towson, October 28, 1899

A-RAB, A WOMAN

Interview with Arcalana Parker of 236 North Arlington Avenue, West Baltimore, a professional Baltimore A-rab cart produce dealer.

—Baltimore Afro-American, October 21, 1939.

AUGINS, FRANK

Obituary of Frank Augins, “successful Negro contractor” of Towson. Lived at 412 Virginia Avenue. Native of Richmond, 33rd degree mason, also an Odd Fellow. Buried at St John’s, Ruxton. Estimated 80-plus years old.

—Jeffersonian, February 5, 1937.

MAJOR AUGUSTA

Report of an attack by a Baltimore mob on Major Alexander Augusta, a military surgeon, described as “colored,” at President Street Station. The mob tried to pull off his epaulets.

—Sun, May 2, 1863.

AUNT EMILINE

Aunt Emiline, the cook at the Bengies Ducking Club, appears in a drawing in a story about President Benjamin Harrison's hunting trip...

—Baltimore American, March 10, 1891
BACON, JOHN

John Bacon was a slave of William Stewart and ran away but was captured.


BALL AT TOWSON

“N_____ Ball” reported at Lorenz Urban’s, Towsontown. “Comment is unnecessary.”

—*Baltimore County Advocate*, December 29, 1855

BANKS, DANIEL

A run-away advertisement reported the escape of Negro Daniel Banks, age 22, height 5 foot 7 inches . . . who ran away from Ridgely’s Forges on the 18th [probably in August] [Ridgely’s Forges was at Maryland Route 7 and Great Gunpowder Falls, now the site of a State park.]

—*Baltimore American*, September 19, 1815.

BANNEKER, BENJAMIN

Lecture about his life at Orchard Street church by Benjamin Barroll of Maryland Historical Society.

—*Sun*, June 14, 1877

BANNEKER’S ALMANAC

Advertisement for Mr. Benjamin Banneker’s almanac; also a recommendation of the almanac by the Maryland Society for the Gradual Abolition of Slavery.

—*Maryland Journal*, Baltimore, October 28, 1791, p. 3, advertisements
BANNEKER, BENJAMIN

“Benjamin Banneker, the Negro Astronomer,” partially reprinted from the Atlantic Monthly of January 1863, its unnamed author was actually Benjamin H. Ellicott. Also, an editorial on p. 2 stating that the late Moses Shepherd owned a manuscript journal and a copy of Banneker’s letter to President Jefferson. Ellicott had sent this article in the form of a letter to Moncure D. Conway, who forwarded it to the Atlantic in Boston.

—Baltimore County Advocate, January 3, 1863.

BARBER (UN-NAMED)

“Lucky Colored Man”...Baltimore barber...was left $7,000, a plantation, and several slaves...his former services and kindnesses to the deceased...under the will of a gentlemen in Virginia...

—Republican & Argus, November 21, 1846.

BARE HILLS BLACK CHURCH

“The old colored Methodist Church building, at Bare Hill, Falls Road, that for many years was a landmark in that neighborhood, was burned last Saturday night. Loss about $200. The fire was of incendiary origin.”

[Note: Not far north of Cold Spring on east side of Falls Road. Shown in 1898 Bromley atlas as “Col. M. E. Church.” - Plate 16. Not actually in “Bare Hills”. Located inside present Baltimore City]

—Baltimore County Union, October 27, 1900.

Asbury Methodist Church
BARRY, A. J.

“Andrew Jackson Barry, a colored citizen of Towsontown, has invented a portable fence”

— *Sun*, January 13, 1877

BEARD, OWEN

Sheriff R. W. Hook advertised that he had committed Benjamin West, alias Owen Beard, to jail as a runaway.

— *Baltimore County Advocate*, Towson, March 19, 1859.

BEDFORD, JOSEPH

“Burial of Faithful Employee,” Joseph Bedford, porter...died at Trenton, N.J., on B. & O. ...temporarily placed in John W. Garrett’s mausoleum...

— *Gazette*, October 11, 1878

BELL, PHILIP

“‘Uncle’ Philip Bell Passes Away at Hartley Mills,” report of burial of former South Carolina slave at Mount Zion on previous Sunday. Bell, age 93, had been picked up by Sherman’s march and wound up in Maryland.

— *Jeffersonian*, March 17, 1933

BEN, RUN-AWAY

Micajah Merryman, living near Ridgeley’s Furnace, advertised for 27-year-old Ben, a capable “waggoner and plowman”, who was able “to do any thing of plantation business, as well as any man.”

— *Pennsylvania Gazette*, December 7, 1791
BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION (B)

An entry marked “Benevolent Institution” was listed in the Baltimore City Census, 1830, Ward 11, page 439. (Nov. 30, 1830):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Free Colored:</th>
<th>(all female)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Under 5</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15-30</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30-40</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-60</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Probably not Sisters of Providence. They should be in Ward #10 in 1830. They moved to Richmond (Read) Street...December 21, 1829.

BERRY, JACOB

Samuel Worthington of Baltimore County advertised for his escaped slaves Jacob Berry, age 21, and Joseph Fox, 18. Worthington probably lived at the present site of the Marriott Hunt Valley Hotel.

—Sun, October 6, 1847.

BETHEL CAMP

“More Negro Rioters Arrested”...several charged...being concerned in the riot at the Bethel Camp, near Franklin...Baltimore County...

—Republican & Argus, August 16, 1845

...more on the 18th...names Frisby Wright and others...

BETHEL CEMETERY

“The Old Bethel Cemetery” . . . cutting John Street through the colored cemetery between Bond Street and Belair Road [i.e., Preston Street].

—Sun, August 1, 1874.

BEULAH CHURCH (9)

The Beulah church on the land donated by Joshua Regester is recorded in deeds 138:290, as discovered by Roberta Carter. Beulah was already the name of Regester’s estate.
BLACK THEATRE COMPANY

Theatre troupe...black people...leased the old “Mud Theatre” at North Street and Saratoga”

— Republican & Argus, May 22, 1855

BLAKE, EUBIE, HIS ADDRESSES

Eubie Blake was born at 319 Forrest Street in 1883 (house extinct).
He purchased No. 915 Rutland Street.

Played the piano at:

- Goldfield Hotel, East Lexington & Chesnut or Colvin Streets (1906).
- Greenfield’s Saloon, corner of Chestnut & Low Streets (1899)
- Agnes Sheldon’s “house” near Gay and Aisquith Street

—Evening Sun, February 14, 1983.

Blake in an FM radio broadcast stated that Aggie Sheldon’s was a “$5 house” while Anna Gillie’s was only a “$1 house” ca. 1900.

BOONE, DAVID

Sheriff R. W. Hook advertised auction of David Boone, age 23.

—Baltimore County Advocate, Towson, June 14, 1859.

BORDLEY, RACHEL

See Irvine, Anetta, a runaway.

BOWIE, LEVI

Levi Bowie, a free colored orphan, age 16, and nephew of Leonard Scott (who manumitted said Levi about 10 years since) was apprenticed to Rezin Pool, cordwainer, May 2, 1815.
[Cordwainers were shoe makers.]

—Baltimore County Orphans Court Indentures, WWB 9:467 (MSA).

BOWSER, MARY ELIZABETH

Mary Elizabeth Bowzer was an African American spy planted in Jefferson Davis’ household by Federal secret service...

—mentioned in Ken Burns’ Civil War television documentary.

NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [ — ].
BOYD, DR., SLAVE CONDUCTOR

In a news item entitled “Negro Stealing” there was a report that Dr. Boyd was arrested for abducting slaves who were hidden in a box wagon. He was caught at New Windsor, Carroll County, and he “passed through the country as a peddler of French goods.” He was charged with aiding Negroes escape from Washington, D.C., and taken back there for trial.

—Baltimore County Advocate, November 19, 1859.

BRADFORD, ARANETTA

Report on case of State-v.-Aranetta Bradford, colored, ...keeping a house of ill-fame in Baltimore City ... Guilty and ordered to be imprisoned one day.

—Republican & Argus, February 13, 1845

BRADLEY, BENJAMIN

“Purchase of the Freedom of a Maryland Slave,” Sun, October 15, 1859. Benjamin Bradley of Annapolis worked in a print shop and made a model steam engine.

BRICKMAKER

Negro Jones, brick maker, was listed as taking James Hammond, an orphan, as an apprentice, January 25, 1816.

—Baltimore County Orphans Court Indentures, WB 10:249.

BROWN, EMALINE, “AUNT” (1)

The Catonsville paper in 1906 reported that “Aunt Emiline Brown” had on the wall of her log cabin on Bloomsbury Avenue a lithograph of Mrs. Abraham Lincoln in a bridal dress, a gift of Mrs. Lincoln, when Ms. Brown was a cook at the White House...she was an ex-slave of the Mersey family of Howard County...she was sold to Lincoln and set free...
[See “Persons” File.]

-----Catonsville Times, August 26, 1981 (reprinted news)

BROWN, JAMES, RUNAWAY

James Brown, a giant-like figure at 6 feet 3 inches, a former field hand of Henry Jones, North Point escaped to Canada. Jones owned 16 slaves before Brown’s escape.

BURGESS, ELIAS

Elias Burgess was apprenticed to Caleb D. Owings to learn farming, 1855. John Hope Franklin, et al., Runaway Slaves, p. 204 Julie DeMatteis already found Caleb D. Owings advertising for Benjamin Marshall Hardy in 1849. Owings was on the east side of Hernwood Road on Sidney & Browne’s 1850 county map.

BURLEY, ISAAC

Item about old criminal docket being found...mentions Isaac Burley...at 1856 December term...sentenced to be sold out of the state for six years for enticing a slave to run away...

— Jeffersonian, March 2, 1929

BUSH MEETING

“Another Bush Meeting was held at the brick yard near this place on Sunday last and although the day was cold and unpleasant, there was a large turn out of the colored population.”

—Baltimore County Advocate, October 6, 1860

BUSH MEETINGS

Report of 2,000 Negroes at a meeting held on the land of W. T. Galloway, Timonium. “Good order prevailed.”

—Baltimore County Advocate, July 2, 1853

County authorities intended to stop Negro “bush meetings”...
—Ibid., August 20, 1853.

BUTLER, ANNIE J.

“Negro Woman, 109, Succumbs”... “Annie J. Butler (colored) died at her home on the Liberty Road, Harrisonville, in her 109th year.”

—Jeffersonian, September 27, 1924.

NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [ — ].
BUTLER, HENRY

Negro, Henry Butler, was killed falling into lime kiln at Texas.

—*Baltimore County Advocate*, February 26, 1856.

CAESAR, RUN-AWAY

Antill Deaver advertised for Caesar, a good carpenter, who “talks pretty good English.”

—*Pennsylvania Gazette*, May 19, 1743.

CAGER, WESLEY

“Negro Hero,” Wesley Cager, used the $1000 award from the Carnegie Foundation to buy a row house at 611 West Barre Street. Photo of house published.

—*Sun*, November 2, 1927.

CAMP MEETING

Report that seven cars of colored people took the train to Rider’s Woods [Riderwood of the present] for a camp meeting.

—*Baltimore County Advocate*, Towson, July 20, 1850.

CAMP MEETING

“Colored Camp Meeting”...on Stevenson property...a mile south of Towsontown...

—*Maryland Journal*, August 2, 1873

CAMP MEETING

“Row at Negro Camp”...on Harford Road...[ought to be outlawed]...

—*Republican & Argus*, August 5, 1845

CAMP MEETING: PHOENIX

“A colored camp meeting under the auspices of the A. M. E. Church, will begin today, the 18th inst., between Phoenix station and Sweet Air, 10th district. Bishop Wyman is expected to attend.

—*Baltimore County Democrat*, July 18, 1891

NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [ — ].
CAMP MEETING, ROLAND AVENUE

“The colored camp meeting which commenced in Mr. Capron’s woods on Roland Avenue, on the 14th inst., will continue over the 23d. The attendance last Sunday was very large and the services were very interesting. The camp is conducted by Rev. E. W. Scott.” [NOTE: Richard J. Capron’s property was on the east side of Roland Avenue between Cold Spring Lane and Wyndhurst Avenue in G. M. Hopkins’ 1877 atlas.]

—Baltimore County Union, July 22, 1882.

CAMP MEETING: TOWSON

“The colored population is holding a camp meeting in East Towson. The camp is attracting a large crowd of that race and a number of white people.”

— Baltimore County Democrat, July 31, 1909

CAMP MEETING, TRAIN TRIP

“Some Narrow Gauge Notes...Excursions will be run tomorrow (Sunday) to the colored camp -meeting in progress near Notre Dame station, and on Sunday a week to the camp meeting at this place.”

— Baltimore County Union, July 22, 1882

DR. CAMPER/KAMPER

A dentist...lived on East Susquehanna Avenue in the 1930s...

CAMPFIELD CHURCH

“Dedication of a Church. — The new African M. E. Church recently erected at Campfield near the Seven-Mile House, on the Reisterstown Hookstown Road, was dedicated yesterday morning. Rev. Bishop Wayman preached the sermon from Genesis, 27th Chapter, 17 verse: “This is the Gate of Heaven none other but the house of God; this is the Gate of Heaven.” The dedicatory services were read by Rev. Bishop Brown. The congregation was large. The building, which is frame, was built by Mr. J. H. Rupert. Rev. J. H. Morris is the pastor of the circuit.”

—Sun, December 17, 1877.
CASSEMERE, BELLONA ALEXANDER

Runaway advertisement placed by Elias Barnaby of Water Street for a Mulatto Boy, Bellona Alexander Cassemere, apprentice to the shoe making business; he speaks English with a French accent and also speaks French.

—Federal Gazette, Baltimore, August 30, 1803

CATONSVILLE: BLACK CEMETERY (1)

Report on dedicating a colored cemetery in Catonsville...

—Maryland Journal, September 23, 1876

CATONSVILLE COLORED BRASS BAND

“Catonsville colored brass band left here on Tuesday for the Military and Naval Academy, Oxford, Md., where they were engaged to furnish music. The Academy is in charge of Col. B. J. Burgess.”

—Argus, Catonsville, September 11, 1886

CHAPMAN, SARAH

Obituary of Sarah Chapman of Sandy Bottom...interment at Bare Hill...

—Baltimore County Democrat, Nov. 30, 1889

CHARLES, RUN-AWAY

A 30-year old Negro Man named Charles ran away from Darby Hendly at the Fork of Gunpowder; he had filed teeth and had lost part of his toes to frost. Charles spoke pretty good English. “Tis uncertain what his Apparel is, but supposed he is almost naked.”

—Pennsylvania Gazette, September 23, 1742.

CHRISTIANA RIOT OR RESISTANCE


—Maryland Journal, February 18, 1882.
CHRISTIANA RIOT OR RESISTANCE

“The Christiana Tragedy,” by Charles Shipley, an historical account.

—Maryland Journal, Towson, September 23, 1899.

CHRISTIANA, BALTIMORE COUNTY PARTICIPANTS

“The second son of Thomas Hutchins and Lovisah Hope was Nicholas Hutchins, 1821-1895, who married Martha E. Nelson, 1829-1860. . . . This was the Nicholas Hutchins who, with his brother-in-law, Nathan Nelson [Jr.], went on the ill fated trip to Christiana, Pennsylvania, since referred to as the Christiana Tragedy of 1851, when Edward Gorsuch sought return of two runaway slaves, Nelson and Joshua. This was in a way a family expedition. Edward Gorsuch, his son Dickinson Gorsuch, and Joshua Gorsuch were kin through the Gorsuch and Talbott line to Dr. Thomas Talbott Gorsuch Pearce, who was with them, and through the Talbott lines all were related to Nathan Nelson, grandson of Thomas Talbott. Nicholas Hutchins’ only kinship was with Nathan Nelson. Edward Gorsuch was killed in the melee and Dickinson Gorsuch and Dr. Pearce were injured. “


CHRISTIANA, FROM NEW YORK TIMES

The first issue of the present New York Times, then the New York Daily Times, contained the story, “Fugitive Slave Riot in Lancaster Co., Pa.”


CHRISTIANA, BALTIMORE PAPERS

“Further about the Late Terrible Riot and Murders at Christiana, Pa.”

—Baltimore Republican & Argus, September 13, 1851.

“The Late Abolition and Negro Outrages in Pennsylvania.”

—Baltimore Republican & Argus, September 15, 1851.

CHURCH, CHASE, MD.

“Colored Church Burned,” in 12th District on the P. W. & B. Railroad on ground donated by William Hopkins; fire on the 28th. It was also used as a county school. [See G. M. Hopkins 1877 atlas which shows a school and the Hopkins family house near the present Chase.]

—Maryland Journal, Towson, December 4, 1880.

NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [ — ].
CHURCH HISTORIES


CIVIL RIGHTS ON HORSE CARS

“The Rights of Colored People to Ride the Street Cars” ...case of Fields-v.-City Passenger Railway...

— Baltimore Gazette, Nov. 13, 1871

COLE, JOHN

“John Cole, colored, a brother of Jacob Cole, of this place, aged about 50 years, was buried at Parkers church, near Oregon, on Thursday afternoon. He lived in Baltimore and his remains came to Cockeysville on 2:15 train.”

— Baltimore County Democrat, January 31, 1891

Gough Church

COLORED CONVENTION

Several successive reports on a colored convention where resolutions were passed about emigration to Liberia...

— Republican & Argus, July 27, 28, 1852

COLORED INDUSTRIAL ASSOCIATION (9)

Started in Towson...names of founders...

— Maryland Journal, April 14, 1894.
COLORED INDUSTRIAL HOME

The new building of the Colored Industrial Home at Melvale was completed, at that time inside Baltimore County [on Cold Spring Lane].

—Baltimore American, April 17, 1893.

COLORED SCHOOL #1

At Pikesville...Colored School 1, District. 3, Pikesville... Albert S. Watts, architect...

— Proceedings. of Board of County School Commissioners, 1897, folio 332.

CONNELLY, HENRY

“A Slave Case—Officer Stockett yesterday arrested Henry Connelly, on the charge of aiding and abetting in the escape of a slave, the property of James Howard, of Baltimore county. He was taken before Justice Kennard, who held him for further hearing.” [Note: Connelly was not listed by race. The James Howard farm was probably on Cowpens Avenue near the present Cromwell Valley Park.]

—Sun, October 20, 1847.

COOPER, HOWARD

See “Lynching” for case of Howard Cooper, 1885, at Towson.

CORDELIA

Cordelia or Dely ___, an ex-slave of Captain Colston of Catonsville, died at her sister’s place in Louisville, Kentucky, at age 90. She had lived in Catonsville, 1861-1866.

—Argus, Catonsville, August 3, 1907.

COSTEN, JOSEPH A.

Joseph A. Costen was, ca. 1900, a lab assistant to Baltimore dentist Dr. T. S. Waters for about 40 years and once counted up and found that it took 3000 mallet strokes to produce a hard gold tooth. Mentioned in Meredith Janvier’s Baltimore Yesterdays (1937), pp. 113-114.

Mt. Zion AME Church

NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [ — ].
COX, JACK

Obituary, of Jack Cox.—on the Manor...colored man age 110...”Jack”... body servant of Richard McGaw...before that of John McGaw...the “young master”...set him free in 1845, gave him a little farm...and an annuity of $90/year.

[NOTE: The J. Cox house was show on west side of Old York Road north of Troyer Road on J. C. Sidney and P. J. Browne’s 1850 map. It was in the 1990s home of the late Stanley Guild.]

—Maryland Journal, December 5, 1868.

CRAFT, WILLIAM AND ELLEN


CRAFTSMAN

Advertisement to sell Negro Romeo, a brush-maker by trade.

—Maryland Journal, Baltimore, August 1, 1777

“CREOLE NEGROES OF BALTIMORE”

Unsigned article from Lippincott’s Magazine, 1878...filed in binder on shelves of Maryland Historical Society library...

[no mention of Oblates]

CROMWELL, HENRY, RUN-AWAY

Henry Cromwell of Baltimore County ran away from William Roberts who owned seven other slaves. Cromwell was six feet high, “quite black,” age 25. He walked to Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, in 1855 and took a freight car to Philadelphia.


CROSS KEYS SCHOOL

Colored school house at Cross Keys saved from a slight fire...

—Baltimore County Union, March 2, 1878
CROW, JIM

Benefit performance for T.D. Rice, the original “Jim Crow.”...in Baltimore...

— Republican & Argus, Jan. 2, 1855

Cf. Reader’s Encyclopedia, s.v. “Jim Crow.” The Jim Crow dance was credited to black persons of both Louisville and Cincinnati.

JIM CROW LAWS

“A number of colored families have lately moved from Sparrow’s Point and will locate in Iowa. It is said they don’t like the Maryland “Jim Crow” law.

— Baltimore County Union, June 4, 1904

JIM CROW TROLLEY CARS

“Jim Crow Cars Friday”...segregation on trolley cars to begin...

— Baltimore News, June 29, 1904, p. 10

MARY CRUMMEL

“Death of an Aged Colored Woman.” Obituary of Mary Crummel, age 75, former slave of the Chew family of Towson. Also worked for Robert Jenkins of Locust Grove near Towson.[The Chew estate became the Goucher College campus.]

— Baltimore County Union, January 10, 1885.

CUBA ROAD

George Brauer, archaeologist, stated that the Prices set their slave free and donated land on Cuba Road (1997 lecture).

RACHEL DALBY

Death of Rachel Dalby, a Negro woman of Patapsco Neck, who died at age 106. Belonged to Hillen family until she was 70, then to the Green family estate.

— Baltimore County Advocate, Towsontown, April 19, 1859.

DAVAGE, MARTHA GWYNN

“East Towson Colored Residents Mourn Passing of Martha Gwynn Davage [at age 57, resident of Lennoxx Avenue].”

— Jeffersonian, December 13, 1940.
DAVENPORT PHOTOS

Calvin Davenport took slides of East Towson in 1960s before wood shingles were replaced by aluminum siding. Exhibited at ex-Carver H.S. building, May 9, 1994, by Dr. Sue Chapelle’s students...

DAVIDGE, FREDERICK

“Frederick Davidge, a well known and trusted colored man of the 11th district, died Tuesday afternoon last, aged about 65 years.”

—”Long Green, 11th District,” Baltimore County Union, March 31, 1906.

DAVIS & HANDY’S CABINET MAKING SHOP (B)

Fire at Davis & Handy’s Cabinet Making Shop...colored owners...at Caroline Street near Bank Street.

— Daily Baltimore Republican, September 18, 1857

DAVIS, ADELINE

The “Last of the Old Southern Mammies,” died: “Aunt” Adeline Davis, who worked for Sherlock Swann’s family since 1869. She was an ex-slave over 90 years of age.

—Sun, December 27, 1926, p. 16.

DAVIS, NANCY

“Death of an Old and Faithful Servant.” Nancy Davis, age 75, died Monday, one of the last surviving servants of the Ridgely family, born at Cowpens on the James Howard farm, having passed to him via the will of General Charles Ridgely, whose daughter was the first Mrs. Howard. She became free under the terms of the will at age 25. Later she became maid and personal attendant of Mrs. Charles Ridgely of Hampton. She had lived in the city since 1904 but died during a visit to Hampton. Three or four generations of her family were held by the Ridgelys.

—Baltimore County Union, April 125, 1908, p. 3.

Piney Grove Methodist Church

NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [ — ].
DETT, JOCK


Services at Eckhardt Funeral Chapel, 11605 Reisterstown Road, Owings Mills, Thursday at 10 AM. Interment in Garrison Forest Veterans Cemetery. Friends may call Wednesday 7 to 9 PM

—Evening Sun, December 31, 1991

DEYE, PHOEBE

“Probably the ‘oldest inhabitant’ of the county was found by assistant Marshall McCullough, in the 10th District, near Sweet Air. It is an old colored woman named Phoebe Dye and is 118 years old, having been born in the county.”

—Baltimore County Advocate, October 6, 1860

DIGGES, EDWARD

Sale of Robert Digges, convicted of manslaughter in Prince Georges County.

—Republican & Argus, Baltimore, May 4, 1854.

DIGGS, EDWARD

The Transfer Book for 1834-1840 recorded in 1834, folio 6, that Edward Diggs (cold.) in Old Election District No. 7 in the “List of Insolvents,” owing $144 (MSA No. 8358).

DIGGS, LOUIS: TRIBUTE [Letter to Editor]

Continue effort to fit black history into school lessons—

Thank you for the positive article about black students in pursuit of their heritage and the positive effects it is having in their lives (Times, March 2).

I was delighted to read that they are aware of their race being omitted from a history that they should have been a part of. More than that, they are making an effort to fit blacks into their history lessons even though the school curriculum does not.

Louis Diggs, though he is retired and has a busy schedule, can still find the time to pass our heritage on to these young people. More power to him! I only hope he has imparted a lasting impression on these students that will not only take them through college, but into the 21st century.

Thelma E. Brown, Catonsville  

Catonsville Times, March 30, 1994
DOMAN, JOHN HENRY

John Henry Doman, a free black orphan, was apprenticed to free black John Breckinridge to learn farming, 1856."


DORSEY, BETTIE

There were letters to the editor of the *Sun* in 1914 mentioning persons who were still alive who had lived at the time of the Bombardment of Fort McHenry. Charles M. Chilcoat wrote from Baltimore County that Bettie Dorsey “who lives at Glencoe on N.C.R.R. .... is 108 years old.” She had been a slave of the late Richard Worthington. At the death of Edward Worthington, she became the slave of Benjamin Worthington... she married Nicholas Dorsey...and lives with her son....Nicholas Dorsey was deceased...

— *Sun*, September 12, 1914, p. 6, column 6

DORSEY, HARRY

100th birthday of Harry Dorsey ... Cooksville... farm worker [in Howard County]

— *Evening Sun*, September 10, 1962

DORSEY, REV. JOHN H.

Funeral of Rev. John H. Dorsey, Pastor of St. Monica’s R. C. Church, only colored priest in Archdiocese. The Rev. Charles Uncles, professor of languages at Epiphany College, Newburg, N. Y., was the celebrant. [Not attended by Archbishop Curley.]

—*Sun*, July 2, 1926

DORSEY, LAURA

Resin H. Triplett in an oral interview with Wilson Herrera in 1972 recalled that Black Laura Dorsey was strong enough to up-end a barrel of chrome ore at the ore washing placer mines in Soldiers Delight ca. 1910.
DOUGLASS, FREDERICK

Lecture at Sharp Street Church by Frederick Douglass.

—Sun, August 23, 1869

“Hon. Frederick Douglas at the Home of his Former Masters [Wye plantation, Talbot County],”

—American, January 13, 1881, p. 4.

DOWDEN’S CHAPEL

“From Gardenville, 12th District.— . . . Death of an Aged Colored Woman.—Aunt Emily Jones, as she was familiarly called, was buried at Cowdon’s Chapel [sic] about two weeks ago. She was 85 years of age and spent her whole life in the neighborhood where she was born, having been a slave in the family of the late Robert Fitch, in which family there were ten children, all of whom have passed away. Aunt Emily was the mother of twenty-two children, not more than eight of whom are now living.”

[NOTE: This should be Dowden’s Chapel, MHT Site BA 1158, if it is on the east side of the county in the old configuration of District 12.]

—Baltimore County Union, March 26, 1881

DRUID HILL AVENUE

“Negroes Encroaching,” article about population trend in 17th ward in the vicinity of Druid Hill Avenue north of Dolphin Street and Argyle Avenue also north of Dolphin. Accompanying photo of brick row houses is headed, “Where the Blight of the Negro Is Most Seriously Felt in the City.”

—Sun, October 27, 1909, p. 9. On October 30, another photo showed present Bethel A.M.E. Church at Druid Hill Avenue and Lafayette Avenue.

DUBLIN, GEORGE

“George Dublin, collored man lives on Jeremiah Bedsen land,”
Assessor’s Field Book of Baltimore County. [ca. 1819].

Possibly on Jeremiah Biddison land, “Biddison’s Neck”

—See Wright, Inhabitants of Baltimore County, pp. 44-55

[This could be the “Dublin” listed as a slave at an 18th century Ironworks...]

NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [—].
DUCKER’S ROW

Ducker’s Row or Hammond’s Row at Glyndon was an African American enclave according to Helen Geist of 82 Hanover Road, Reisterstown, October 1999). The row was near Sacred Heart Lane.

DUCKETT, NELLY

A bill of sale dated March 26, 1842, records the sale of Nelly Duckett, black woman, aged 52, from Mrs. Mary Caton to William Y. Day via Mrs. Caton’s trustee and father, Richard S. Steuart. William Young Day lived at or near Upper Falls (Maryland Historical Society Manuscript Collection, “Day Family papers,” MS. 1225, discovered 2003 by Kimberly R. Abe).

DYER, DR.

“Legal Rights of Colored Physicians,” Dr. Davin Dyer petitions court to be enrolled as licensed physician.

— Gazette, March 8, 1878.

EASTER, A RUN-AWAY

In 1825, Jacob Woolery, who lived four miles from Winchester, Virginia, printed a run-away hand-bill for Easter, a 22-year-old woman, who was a former slave of Arthur Hill near Reisterstown. Woolery suspected that Easter would “be lurking” at Fells Point with relatives (Maryland Historical Magazine, 66 (Spring 1971):43, photograph of broadside).

EBB, JOSEPH

Joseph Ebb died at his home, 168 Winters Lane, Tuesday. He was 78 . . . His father, William Ebb who died in 1895, was the father of two children. He had been a slave in the Somerville family before the war between the States and fought in the war. His children served the most prominent Catonsville families.


EBENEZER CHURCH

Ebenezer Church, Montgomery Street, hosted a talk by Madame Parque, a native of Hayti.

— Sun, February 2, 1875.

EDUCATION, ETC.

“Moral and Educational Improvement of the Colored People”...meeting at Epsom Chapel, Towsontown...

— Maryland Journal, January 12, 1867
EDUCATION-OPPOSITION

“E. Stanley Gary Warns/Declares Overeducated Negroes of Cities Are Worthless.” [Gary was heir to mill town of Alberton. Lived at Catonsville.]

—Sun, December 4, 1903

EDWARDS, DAVIS

See Peck, Lewis, a runaway.

ELSA, ISAAC

Isaac Elsa, age 38, was advertised as a runaway.

—Maryland Journal, Baltimore, June 29, 1796.

EMANCIPATION PROCLAMATION

First publication of this document appeared in the county in the Baltimore County Advocate, Towsontown, September 27, 1862. For an account of the Watch Night observance on December 31, 1862, see, “Jubilee Among the Contrabands of Washington,” Sun, January 2, 1863, p. 1.

EMANCIPATION IN MARYLAND

Emancipation in Maryland took place on November 1, 1864, shortly after the Constitution of 1864 was adopted. Scharf’s History of Maryland, Vol. 3, states that the citizens voted down the constitution, but Governor A. W. Bradford’s administration created a majority of 375 using soldiers’ ballots.

EMANCIPATION BY JOSHUA MARSH

“Emancipation of Slaves. — The County American of last week says: ‘On Wednesday last, Captain Joshua Marsh, of the 10th District of this county, manumitted 21 slaves, every one that he owned. He had previously given those their freedom that were able to earn their own living. The young ones, of which there are some six or eight, he will no doubt be obliged to raise and provide for.’” [NOTE: Marsh lived at the Eagle’s Nest on Jarrettsville Pike.]

—Baltimore County Advocate, August 20, 1864.

EXCURSIONS ON THE BAY

“Free Excursions for Colored People,” story of 1,000 persons treated to a trip on the freight steamer Petersburg to Avondale with three meals furnished. Supervised by members of Baltimore Society.

—Sun, July 13, 1877
FIFE & DRUM CORPS (9)

“A number of colored men of Towsontown have formed a drum and fife corps and already make very good music of the kind.”

— Baltimore County Union, July 9, 1881

FIRST COLORED BAPTIST CHURCH (B)

“After worshipping for more than a quarter of a century in a small building built of the sides of cable cars, along the Western Run, Mount Washington, the congregation of the First Colored Baptist Church will lay the cornerstone of their new church, a more modern structure, Sunday afternoon, July 1. According to the program, Master Masons will lay the stone. Rev. Thomas F. Wyatt is pastor. The new building will cost about $3,000.”

— Jeffersonian, Towson, June 23, 1916

FISHER, WILLIAM


— Republican & Argus, July 26, 1853, p. 2

FOOT, BASIL (8)

Various tax entries in 1878 for Basil Foot...

— Transfer Book, Districts 6-9, Hall of Records # 0-37-3-17, T-1481, page 248.

FORTIE, RICHARD

Richard Fortie, a free person, was convicted of stealing a check and was sold to George H. Carman, but twice ran away.

— John Hope Franklin & Loren Schwenger, Runaway Slaves (1999), p. 194. See register of Wills, Petitions & Orders, George H., Carman-v.-Richard Fortie, November 15, 1859. Reel 11,020, SC MSA. See Note 31, p. 389, in Franklin et al. Carman’s purchase of Fortie was reported in the Baltimore County Advocate, January 8, 1859. Carman was once Clerk of the Court at Towson.
FORTY ACRES AND A MULE

Gregory Kane reported a musical group singing about “40 Acres and a Mule.” Kane noted that the grant of 40 acres was proposed in Congress in 1866 as a resolution by Thaddeus Stevenson, but it failed to pass. [This phrase was also used in General William T. Sherman’s Field Order 15 in 1864 permitting refugee slaves to appropriate abandoned rice plantations on Saint Helen’s Island, Georgia.]

—Sun, October 21, 2000.

FOX, JOSEPH

For the runaway Joseph Fox, see Jacob Berry.

FRANKLIN, DAVID

Sheriff R. W. Hook advertised auction of the slave David Franklin, 25 years old.

—Baltimore County Advocate, April __, 1859.

FRANKLIN, JOSEPH

Certificate of Freedom No. 302 recorded in 1815 for Joseph Franklin... manumitted on January 27, 1815 from Ezekiel Picket, at age 40, Baltimore County.

“Certificates of Freedom”...Maryland Hall of Records No. 40131-1 (1806-1816)...Series C 290.

FRAZIER, JOSHUA

The Baltimore County Public Library’s Legacy Web Site contains a photo of Josh Frazier, long-time ice delivery man at the Towson Ice Company, ca. 1925.

FREE POPULATION

Suzanne Ellery Greene Chapelle noted that half the African-American population in Baltimore County was free by 1850.

FUGITIVE SLAVE

The General Assembly of Md. passed Resolution No. 12, 1852...holding that Archibald G. Ridgely’s killing of a fugitive slave in Pennsylvania on or about May 1, 1852, did not constitute murder. Ridgely was a citizen of Baltimore City.

FUGITIVE SLAVES

Two fugitive slaves in Canada...one a coachman...wrote to their master to be rescued from freedom...

—Republican & Argus, December 18, 1856
GARRETT, ADOLPHUS

Adolphus Garrett, an ex-slave, lived on Schwartz Avenue as recalled by Henry M. Walker, owner of the Drumquhazel mansion, writing in the *Sun Magazine*, January 30, 1949.

GARRETT, JOHN

“John Garrett, colored, a local preacher of the United African Methodist protestant Church, died suddenly yesterday at his home in Towson. His death, it is said, was caused by heart disease. He was about seventy years old and leaves a wife and one grown son.”

—*Sun*, January 20, 1896.

GEORGE, NEGRO

The only unaccounted for George in the list — “Negro George.” Manumitted by Septimus Noell at age 27 on October 19, 1792. Raised in City of Baltimore. Recorded in “Certificates of Freedom” on May 17, 1809. #107 in list, Hall of Records Series C-290, Item #40131-1.

GOFF’S PLAINS

Goff’s Plains was a subdivision in historic East Towson, filed for record in April 1905. The name Goff was the maiden name of owner Mrs. Adelaide Goff Birckhead. The only street, Lennox Avenue, is derived from the name of her husband, Lennox Birckhead. The developers were wealthy white people. See Baltimore County Plats, JWS 2:167.

GORDON, SQUIRE

Squire Gordon, age 115, died at Baldwin . . . was a slave born in Cecil County …buried at Mt. Zion Church, Unionville.

—*Baltimore County Union*, December 13, 1880.

GORSUCH TAVERN

Mrs. Velia Kone of Texas, Md., informed John McGrain that one of the Gorsuch family owned a branding iron and gave it to the Baltimore County Historical Society Museum with a tag on it reading that the object was used by one of the slaves to hit one of the family (August 23, 1988).
GRAY, JOHN THOMAS

John Thomas Gray, a slave of Peter W. Gibbons, ran away in March 1853.


GRAY, THOMAS

Thomas Gray, an industrious colored man of Towson, died.

—*Baltimore County Union*, March 25, 1905.

GREEN SPRING SCHOOL

“A colored school was established at Green Spring upon the usual terms, a school house having been built at that place by the colored people.”

—*Sun*, November 29, 1873.

GREENER’S SCHOOL

Long advertisement for a school kept by Jacob C. Greener, appeal for funds.

—*American*, January 5, 1830

GREGORY AGED WOMEN’S HOME

Dedication of Gregory Aged Women’s Home on alms house property at terminus of Townsend Street at the former hospital barracks site presented by the U. S. Government [at that time in the county].

—*Sun*, July 22, 1867.

GREEN SPRING SCHOOL

“A colored school was established at Green Spring upon the usual terms, a school house having been built at that place by the colored people.”

—”Baltimore County Schools,” *Sun*, November 29, 1873

GRINAGE, PAMELA

Young, 30-ish woman with typical Baltimore County name...she was a cancer patient at St. Barnabas Hospital, New York...
— CBS Evening News - July 28, 1993

*NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [— ].*
GUANO MINING

“The Colored Exodus,” 200 persons shipped by steamer to Guano Islands.”

— Sun, September 14, 1854

GUNNISON, WILLIAM

“Death of an Original Abolitionist,” William Gunnison . . . at 1107 Bolton Street . . . 80 years old . . . came to Baltimore in 1849.

—Sun, June 22, 1892.

GWYNN, MARGARET JANE ROBERTS

Long interview with Margaret Jane Gwynn, born Margaret Jane Roberts in Canada; married Joshua Gwynn, ex-slave of James Burton family of Glen Arm. She composed words and music of many hymns published by AME Church. Mother of 13. Age 83 when interviewed.

—Jeffersonian, March 28, 1931.

HALL, CHARLES, RUNAWAY

April 1856: Charles Hall was a slave of Atwood A. Blunt of Baltimore County, “much of whose time was devoted to card playing, rum-drinking, and fox-hunting, so Charles stated. A mild master, except when he drank.” Charles escaped to Canada.


HALL FAMILY

The 1853 Transfer Book, Volume 1, District 1, showed on page 1, “Nancy Hall, (cold.) To Rachel Harris (cold.): 1-3/4 acre of land—$87. Improvements—$25. Furniture—$5. [Possibly near Oella].

HAMER, MARY

“Death of a Well-Known Colored Woman.”—Mary Hamer, colored, well known in the eastern and central markets as Aunt Mary, died yesterday at her home, No. 81 East street, aged eighty-eight years. Aunt Mary attended the markets for upwards of forty or fifty years, and was favorably known to many regular customers. She belonged to the estate of Thomas Ringgold, and came from the Eastern Shore with that family when they removed to Long Green, Baltimore County. She was manumitted at the age of thirty years. She leaves three sons and one daughter, the latter living at New Bedford, Mass. One son resides in San Francisco, Cal., one in Washington, D.C., and the other in Baltimore. [Note: Mrs. Hamer had lived at the National Register site, Prospect Hill, on Kanes Road in Baltimore County.]

—Sun, June 23, 1875.

NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [ — ].
HARPER, FRANCES ELLEN W. F. W.

Ellen W. Frances W. Harper will read her poems at Sharp Street Church for the benefit of the poor of the above church. Admission 25 cents. Including poem, “Moses.”


HARRIS, ASBURY

Obituary of Asbury Harris, colored....Kingsville...member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

— Union News, August 28, 1909

HARRIS DOLLY

“Dolly Harris Negro”—was listed with 11 acres in District 7 tax list, 1852.

HARRIS, ELIAS

Elias Harris served in the Union Army and died of disease about 1863; he was born in 1813 and had been of a free family but was marked “slave” in the army roster. Found in the 1850 census. Inquiry from an anonymous genealogist, 1999.

HARRIS, JENNIE

“Jennie Harris, colored, has been lodged in jail here on the charge of drowning her infant in a quarry hole on the farm of Mr. Philip T. George, in Long Green Valley, 11th district.”

— Baltimore County Democrat, June 7, 1890

HARRISON, TOM

Tom Harrison was a slave on the Stemmer House property and later stayed on as an employee of Aunt Sallie Hayes. Miss Hayes was an art teacher and depicted Tom Harrison at the kitchen table in the Stemmer House. Mr. Robert Chapman, President of Aircraft Armaments owns the picture and made a photo copy in color for Mrs. Barbara Holdridge (1993).

Harrison is also depicted in a photo owned by the Chapmans, once published in History Trails.

HAWKINS, ROBERT

Robert Hawkins was a former slave, interviewed in 1934 or before by Angela Carroll Donegan and Catherine Gordon Carrall in a Johns Hopkins term paper entitled “Elkridge” for Dr. Broadus Mitchell’s class in economic history. In VF at EPFL Maryland Department. Robert Hawkins showed them the site of the Elkridge Furnace.

In 1993...there were Hawkins family members in Halethorpe area.
HAYES, RONALD

Ronald Hayes, “Negro tenor,” refused to go on stage at the Lyric in Baltimore where there was a segregated audience. Eventually he agreed to sing.

—Sun, January 8, 1926.

HENRY, T. A.

T. A. Henry, a “colored professor and composer,” led the choir at the opening of a small chapel, Henry’s West Street M. P. Chapel, West Street near Hanover Street, a 25 by 35-foot building. (“Corner-Stones of Churches by Colored People”)

—Sun, July 26, 1875.

HENSON, ANDREW (9)

Obituary of Andrew Henson, age 75, at Sandy Bottom, former slave of John Merryman of Hayfields, burial at Almshouse, “Death of an Aged Colored Man.”

—Maryland Journal, December 10, 1892

HENSON, JACOB

“Jacob Henson Lynched at Ellicott City [in Howard County],” Maryland Journal, Towson, June 1, 1895.

HERBERT, REV. J. J.

“Death of a Colored Minister.” Rev. J. J. Herbert, pastor of the African M. E. Church at Randallstown, died at his home in Catonsville, age 77, on the 11th. The oldest itinerant in his Conference. Native of Washington County. Had $10,000 in property. Left a widow and four children.

—Baltimore, County Union, March 20, 1886.

HERBERT, MARY

Mary Herbert, “a colored woman,” had previously conducted the Highland Park Hotel as an asylum. The institution was to be taken over by the Mill Hill Sisters [from London, U.K].

—Sun, April 5, 1888.

HOOD, PETER

Peter Hood arrested...concealing slave girl from her master... assisting her in escaping from the city...

—Republican & Argus, August 12, 1845
HORSE CARS: INTEGRATION

Following a court decision, the City Passenger Railway Company provided some cars with signs reading, “Colored People Admitted into this Car.” African American passengers were “required to get off other cars.” On the first day of service, [May 2, a Monday] white people avoided cars “with the sign.”


HOUSING PROJECT (B)

October 25: Three of the four Negro housing sites proposed by the Baltimore Housing Authority as a substitute for the Moore’s Run-Philadelphia Road tract have been disapproved by the Baltimore Urban League, J. Harvey Kerns, its executive secretary, announced yesterday.

— Sun, October 24-30, 1943

HOWARD, JAMES, SLAVE HOLDER

See Henry Connelly, who helped Howard’s slave escape.

HURLEY’S PARK CAMP

“Three thousand seven hundred and four colored persons attended the Union Camp Meeting Sunday that is being held at Hurley’s Park, on Wilkens avenue, under the auspices of Allen Station, Herald Circle and St. Peter’s A. M. E. Churches of Baltimore.”

— Baltimore County Democrat, July 26, 1890

IRONWORKS SLAVES

Charles G. Steffen calculated that 12% of the slaves were employed at the various Baltimore County ironworks,...1773.

— From Gentlemen to Townsmen, 1993, p. 53

IRVINE, ANETTA

Anetta Irvine, a slave of William E. Grimes, ran away in 1855.

— John hope Franklin & Loren Schweninger, Runaway Slaves (199), p. 290. See Register of Wills, Petitions and Orders, Reel M-11,020 SC MSA. Note: Deliah Sibra advertised for a former slave of William Grimes, deceased, Sun, March 4, 1857. The slave was Rachel Bordley, alias Taylor.

ISAR, WILLIAM

Luke Trotten reported a run-away mulatto, William Isar, from Patapsco Neck...

— Maryland Gazette, July 24, 1760

NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [ — ].
IVORY COLORED BAPTIST CHURCH

Report on cornerstone ceremony of Ivory Colored Baptist Church... between Hillen and Harford Road...

— *Baltimore County Democrat*, July 6, 1890

JAIL PRISONER (Baltimore City)

“Examination of a Prisoner”...long dialect story about Jimmy, sentenced to city jail...”his mulattoship...” [a droll story, now offensive]...

— *Republican & Argus*, February 12, 1855

JAMES, MARY

Mary James, who had been manumitted at age 36 in 1802 by Samuel Tipton, when she was 36 years of age. Now she had reached age 104. She lived near Rider’s Switch [Riderwood] and occasionally worked for the neighbors.

— *Baltimore County Union*, June 25, 1870.

JEFFERSON’S FAMILY

The accusation by J. T. Callender of Richmond was fully reprinted in the *Frederick Town Herald*, September 18, 1802, “The President Again.” This was Callender’s revelation that Thomas Jefferson had a black “concubine” named Sally who bore him various children. More on October 9, 1802, p. 1. More, October 30, 1802. There was also a mention of “Sally” in a letter from J. T. Callender in the Baltimore *Federal Gazette*, September 15, 1802.

JEFFERSON STREET CHURCH (B)

Otherwise nameless “church for a colored congregation in Jefferson Street near Harford Road”...in list of recently built city churches...

— *Republican & Argus*, April 7, 1843

JEM, RUN-AWAY

Samuel Young advertised for the return of Jem, a Maryland-born slave, from the Fork of Gunpowder area. Jem was about 25 was accused of breaking into a store at Joppa with other slaves.

—*Pennsylvania Gazette*, August 1, 1771.
JEMMY, RUN-AWAY

Benjamin Welsh advertised for the return of Jemmy, who had been in the country about 16 months and spoke very little English “and has been most part of the said time cutting cordwood.”

Jemmy had fled from Stephen Onion’s Iron Works [at present Maryland Route 7 and Little Gunpowder Falls.]

—*Pennsylvania Gazette*, December 6, 1773

JENKINS, GEORGE

Obituary of George Jenkins, an ex-slave, age 84, formerly held by the Ford family of Long Green. He got his freedom in 1833 and went to the city. Was last employed by William Whitelock & Company, a fertilizer manufacturer. That company paid his admission to the Aged Men’s Home of the M.E. Church and paid him a pension.

—*Baltimore County Union*, March 2, 1878.

“Death of a Worthy Colored Man,” George Jenkins, born in 1783 on December 25. He was a carrier for the Baltimore *American* and a long time member of Asbury Church.

—*Maryland Journal*, March 2, 1878

JIM

Jim, a slave of the Carrroll family, belonged to the minor heir, John N. Carroll. He ran away from the property.


JOE, RUN-AWAY

Robert Saunders of Middle River Neck on Gunpowder River advertised for the escaped Joe (alias Dick) who shaved his head except for the crown and also had “holes in his ears for rings.”

—*Pennsylvania Gazette*, October 11, 1775.
JOHNS HOPKINS COLORED ORPHAN ASYLUM

The Johns Hopkins Charities—The trustees of the Johns Hopkins Hospital and Colored Orphan Asylum have purchased 24 acres of land on the Frederick road between the House of Refuge and Mount Olivet Cemetery, for the purposes of the colored orphan asylum. The place is known as Fort Hill, and $16,000 was paid for it.

— Sun, August 14, 1875 (from “100 Years Ago”)

Shown in 1877 atlas east of Olivet Street, north of Mt. Olivet Cemetery—now Park property...adj. Southwestern High School.

JOHNSON, AGNES

“A Woman Killed on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad”...Agnes Johnson, colored...aged woman...picking up chips in Camden yards...run over by tender of locomotive ... both legs cut off...

— Republican and Argus, March 10, 1855

JOHNSON, ADELAIDE

Adelaide Johnson, colored, who died at her home in the 11th District of Baltimore County, was upwards of 100 years old.

—Baltimore County Union, April 1, 1905.

JOHNSON, AQUILLA

“A Whistler from Baltimore County,” Aquilla Johnson, died at city home, 619 Campbell Street., age 87. He could whistle any tune after hearing it once. A former slave, born January 1, 1804. He was once attacked by bandits who tried to stab him while in bed.


JOHNSON, BENJAMIN, builder

Report that “Benjamin Johnson, the only colored carpenter and builder in Towson” had contract to build a house on West Allegheny Avenue for Mrs. Eleanor Pinkerton...

—Baltimore County Union, August 5, 1905

Benjamin Johnson, the only colored carpenter in Towson, was mentioned that he had to turn away jobs because he couldn’t find helpers.

—Baltimore County Union, October 31, 1907.
JOHNSON, GEORGE

George Johnson, taken up as a vagrant by the sheriff, was auctioned for $10.50 to John Bosley.

—Baltimore County Advocate, October 25, 1862.

JOHNSON, ROSE

Rose Johnson was mentioned as a slave at Clynmalira, 15315 Carroll Road, Sparks, Md. She came merrily down the stairs calling out, “I am free. I am free,” when emancipation was announced.


JOHNSON, SALLY

Obituary of Sally Johnson, age 90, owned small farm at Chase which she bought from earnings as cook at Carroll’s Island and Grace’s Quarters Ducking Clubs.

—”Rossville, 12th District,” *Baltimore County Union*, Towson, Md., August 18, 1888.

JOHNSON, SUSAN

Described as a black person, murdered...


JOHNSON, WINNIE

Sudden death of Winnie Johnson, who weighed 849 pounds, at 422 East Street; born in Henry County, Kentucky, in 1839.

—Sun, September 8, 1888.

JONES, EMILY

- See Dowden’s Chapel.

JONES, JAMES

James Jones, butler at the Reese house at Charles and Cold Spring, dropped dead at age 75, preparing dinner. He had earlier worked for three generations of the Buzby family at Buzby mansion at SE corner of Saint Paul and Eager Streets. Was born in Govans. His widow, Mrs. Eliza Jones lives at 1222 Druid Hill Avenue.

-Sun, April 23, 1924.

JONES, NEGRO

- See “Brickmaker.”

*NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [* — *].*
KIDNAPPING OYSTERMEN

Long article about “Alleged Kidnapping of Colored Men for Oyster Vessels.” —Sun, September 22, 1870.

KINDERGARTEN: BLACK CHILDREN

“Little Ones Enjoy It,” a colored kindergarten...at St. James P. E. Church, Baltimore City...

— American, January 27, 1889 (Illustrations)

LAUREL CEMETERY

The Laurel Cemetery “for colored people” was building a Gothic entrance in brick designed by Thomas Lister, architect and builder.

— Sun, June 9, 1854

“Graves of Colored Soldiers and Sailors.” The graves were to be decorated on June 1 at Laurel Cemetery on Belair Road; an oration was to be delivered by W. H. Day of Delaware.

—Sun, May 9, 1874.

LAUREL CEMETERY

Laurel Cemetery was in the county...at one time. See Gardenville news...about landscape work...

— Baltimore County Union, April 14, 1877

LAWYER, FIRST BLACK PERSON

“A Colored Lawyer at Baltimore County Bar”
...Charles W. Johnson admitted on 13th...

— Maryland Journal, November 16, 1889

LEE, REV. WILLIAM MACK

LENNOX AVENUE.

This residential street in East Towson was derived from the name of Lennox Birckhead, the wealthy white developer of the subdivision of “Goff’s Plains,” q.v.

LEWIS, EDMONIA

“Bas-Relief by a Colored Artist.” Work by Edmonia Lewis for Chapel of St. Mary the Virgin, Orchard Street, depicting the Three Kings, the black figure the most prominent. [Note: This church was burned in 20th century, artworks destroyed.]

—Sun, March 30, 1883.

LEWIS, JOHN T.

This African American from Maryland was probably an ex-slave. He frequently talked to Mark Twain at Quarry Farm near Elmire, New York.

—Ken Burns TV film, “Mark Twain,” 2002

LIBERIA

Sailing of colonists from Jackson’s Wharf for Liberian on brig Boxer. Jacob Gross, the leader. Sermon by Rev. Dr. Wyatt.

—Baltimore Clipper, December 13, 1839.

LIBERIA

Liberian immigrants had been unable to buy cattle; they stopped at an island on the brig Boxer.

—“Marine List,” American, March 12, 1840

LIBERIA

The motto of the Republic of Liberia was “The Love of Liberty Brought Us Here.”

—Republican & Argus, December 14, 1847,

LIBERIA

Departure of the Liberia Packet...

—Republican & Argus, July 19, 1851

LIBERIA

“Liberian Expedition”...for Cape Palmas and Monrovia...90 people from Kentucky and Indiana...sailing from Baltimore...

—Republican and Argus, Nov. 8, 1853

NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [ — ].

39
“For Africa.—The barque Cora, Captain Burnham, is now under charter by Dr. Hall, agent of the Maryland Colonization Society, and will sail from this port in a few days. She is fitted up to carry one hundred and twenty emigrants to Africa. She is a superior vessel, built here, and every way calculated to make a safe passage. She lies at Chase’s wharf.”

—Sun, May 2, 1855

Letter from Liberia by Dr. Roberts.

—Republican & Argus, April 9, 1856.

“Sailing of African Settlers”… on ship Mary Caroline Stevens…80 passengers…from Pennsylvania, Conn., Wisc., Ohio, and Illinois, Delaware, Kentucky, and South Carolina.

—Sun, November 5, 1860.

John H. B. Latrobe gave speech on deeds of Governor J. B. Russwurm at Cape Palmas, Africa...at colored Presbyterian church...

— Republican & Argus, March 11, 1852

“Opening of a Library for Colored People” on second floor of building opposite Bethel Church, Saratoga Street.

— Gazette, August 27, 1878

“Cases of Longevity”...Dr. Gilman...believed that a colored woman residing in Elbow Lane was at least 120 years old...

— Daily Baltimore Republican, February 10, 1859

Obituary of Nathan Lyons, “Uncle Nace” who was once a slave of the Ridgelys...died on Hillen Road...near Towson...

—Baltimore County Democrat, May 28, 1892

NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [ — ].
LYNCHING

Report of the lynching of Nicholas Snowden at Howard County jail, Ellicott City.

—Sun, September 19, 1885.

LYNCHING

For an account of lynching Howard Cooper at Towson Jail on July 12, 1885, see Neal F. Brooks & Eric G. Rockel, *A History of Baltimore County*, pp. 262-263.

MADDEN, CATHERINE

On January 23, 1998, CATHERINE, of Cockeysville, MD, a retired Baltimore County Educator, widow of Harry Madden, is now survived by her one sister Mabel J. Smith, numerous grandchildren, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends. Friends may call at the Nutter Funeral Home, Inc., 2501 Gwynns Falls Pkwy on Tuesday, January 27 from 3 to 8 P.M. The family will receive friends Wednesday evening at the Garrison Blvd United Methodist Church, 2506 Garrison Blvd from 6 to 7 P.M. with Funeral immediately following. Interment Thursday, at the Gough United Methodist Church Cemetery in Cockeysville, MD.


MADDEN, JACOB (Howard County)

Jacob Madden’s advertisements for the “Temple of Fashion,” a barber shop in Ellicott City.

—*Howard Free Press*, March 27, 1841. More on June 5, 1847.

MADDEN, JOB

The 1834-1840 Transfer Book (Md. HR No. 8358, Old District No. 7, in 1834 listed on folio 6: Job Madden (colored) with 7 acres worth $115 each, $105 value).

MANUMISSIONS

A total of 81 manumissions had been made so far that year...

—*Baltimore County Advocate*, June 9, 1860

![Mt. Olive Baptist Church]
MARSH FAMILY SLAVES

“Many Baltimore county farmers were in advance of president Lincoln in freeing their slaves, and it may be observed, they freed their own while Lincoln freed those belonging to others. The following note is from the Advocate of August 20, ’64:

“Emancipation of Slaves,—Captain Joshua Marsh, of the 10th District of this County, manumitted 21 slaves, every one that he owned. He had been previously given those their freedom that were able to earn their own living. The young ones, of which there are some six or eight, he will no doubt be obliged to raise and provide for.”

—Baltimore County Union, November 16, 1912 (reprint)

MASON, BETSY

Obituary of Betsy Mason on 163 Wise Avenue, Dundalk, former slave, born in the South 114 years before.

—Jeffersonian, October 8, 1937.

MASONIC HALL, TOWSON

Mr. Clarence Myers of Towson (Lennox Ave.) recalled the ex-school on East Susquehanna Avenue being used by the Masons, who held Saturday night movies...then the building passed to the fireworks manufacturer...the factory had a disastrous fire...early 1940s [?...and stood for a long time as a burned-out brick ruin...

Site of parking garage for Baltimore County Public Library...

MATTHEWS FAMILY (14)(BC)

Parkville’s only black family...lost house to fire...Annie Matthews...at Taylor Avenue near Harford Road...mentions former slave, the late Samuel Matthews.

—Jeffersonian, January 5, 1940

MAY AVENUE

Clarence Myers of 315 Lennox Avenue, Towson, recalled the cluster of black families on May Avenue, but there were other families in a row along York Road, where gas stations later came in [has to be pre-1943]. May Avenue people were very poor...[May 9, 1994].....mentioned Smart family, May Avenue.
MEMORIAL CAMP

The Monumental and Chesapeake district of the Boy Scouts, which is composed of Negro troops, has exceeded its goal of $5,000 for the Memorial Camp Fund by six percent, Dr. J.M.T. Finney Jr., general chairman of the drive, announced yesterday.

— Sun, June 23, 1944

MENKALA


Some connection with game pieces found at Garrison Fort?

MERRYMEN, FREDERICK

Robert Lyon of Wester Ogle on Reisterstown Road beyond Pikesville had a run-away poster printed on July 12, 1819, seeking the return of Frederick Merryman, age 34 or 35, who was suspected of hiding at Baltimore Seminary or seeking a berth on a ship (handbill owned by 21st century Robert Lyon of Purcellville, Va.).

METHODIST PROTESTANT CHURCH

Mention of a new colored Methodist Protestant Church...dedicated...in Chestnut Hill near Hillen street... “handsome structure”

— Republican & Argus, March 9, 1852

MEYERS, SAM

The African-American caretaker of Drumquhazle...written about with fondness by Cooper Walker...unpublished...his retirement home was on small street in Idelwylde...shingled house...behind the store and caterer business...his wife was Nancy...church member...

Data from Roberta Carter (1992)

MIGRATION TO OBERLIN

“Immigration from North Carolina. — Yesterday there arrived in this city, under the charge of Mr. Anderson Coffin, as agent, several families, consisting in all of 150 persons, emigrating from their old homes in North Carolina to the new lands of Indiana, where the prospects are thought to be better than in the Old North State. There were in the number all ages, from the babe at the breast to the aged grandfather. There were also 18 colored people, some of whom are on the way to Oberlin College, Ohio. The party took up their quarters during the day in the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad building, and attracted considerable attention. Mr. Coffin, the agent, states his intention is to bring through during the fall months some 600 more, who are desirous of trying their fortunes in the West. — The party left for their destination on the Western train yesterday evening.”

—Sun, August 16, 1866

NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [ — ].
MILLER, JOSEPH

Joseph Miller, a resident of Lancaster County, was murdered in Baltimore County while trying to free a slave, around about 1852.

— reported in Bloody Dawn

MILLER, POLK’S MUSICAL GROUP

Two Confederates plus Polk Miller’s Old South Quartet, a mixed group of two white banjo players and four black singers, entertained at the Confederate Home; they planned to perform in Towson. Article and Photo.

—Democrat & Journal, Towson, September 13, 1913, p. 5.

MILLER, SLAVE

Mary Nicholson, widow of Benjamin Nicholson, advertised the Ranelagh Mill on Gunpowder Falls, noting, “A very good Negro miller will be hired with the mill.” [This mill was located at the present Paper Mill Road bridge.]

—Maryland Journal, Baltimore, July 10, 1792.

MILLY, AUNT

(No last name). Aunt Millie, a slave of the Ridgely family, died at age 100.

— Sun, June 16, 1877

MITCHELL, LEWIS

“Old Negro Fiddler Passes to Great Beyond [Lewis Mitchell of New Park, Pennsylvania, who played and called the figures at many country dances in Baltimore and Harford Counties, died].”

—Jeffersonian, January 3, 1931.

MITCHELL, SAMUEL

Samuel Mitchell, a black “striker” in the blacksmith shop of Mr. Huzza near the Horse Market “fell dead at work.” Lewis Street house, age 55...

— Republican & Argus, February 14, 1848

MOLES/MOLZ CABIN

Built on Sweet Air Road by Helen Moles’ grandfather...he had removed it from an earlier site...two story log house...very low entrance door...later coated with aluminum siding...John Russo noted it on his visit of January 21, 1994.
MORTON, GREENBURY


— Register of Free Negroes (not manumitted) in virtue of an Act of Assembly passed November Session 1805. Certificates granted by Clerk of Baltimore County. [Hall of Records #40131-1 Series C-290.

Also, #3 Joshua Morton, Free Born...
#58 Daniel Harris...age 19...1810

MT. AUBURN CEMETERY

Joe Gans’ grave was personally cleaned up and decorated by ex-boxer Mike Tyson. Cemetery in Baltimore City on Old Annapolis Road.


MT. CALVARY A.M.E. CHURCH

Dedication of Mt. Calvary A.M.E.....frame house...Windsor Heights between Powhatan Railroad and Old Franklin Road...in beautiful grove... Was located in Election District 2 or 3.

[A Mount Zion M. E.(no letter “A”) appears in 1915 Bromley Atlas, Plate 9 near Windsor Heights...on present Ridgetop Road (See Alexandria Atlas, Page 33, K-10.)

[Mrs. Mary Speaks on May 21, 1996, informed John McGrain that her mother talked about a church in the Windsor Mill Road area “in the woods.”]

—Sun, June 14, 1886.

MT. JOY: SCHOOL

Petition for colored school at Mt. Joy near Wesley Chapel, 10th District.

Proceedings of Bd. of Co. School Commissioners, 1872, p. 272.

MORNING STAR LODGE 82

Formation of Catonsville branch, Morning Star Lodge 82, National Progressive Order of Odd Fellows.

—Maryland Journal, November 12, 1881
MYERS, CHARLES

Charles Myers, a slave of the Stansbury family and son of Philip Myers, died at his brother’s house on Joppa Road near Towson. He long worked for William and Joseph Bowen as a hod-carrier and stonemason. He was also a grave-digger for Lorraine Cemetery on Franklin Road. He was unmarried.

—*Baltimore County Union*, October 1, 1904

NATHAN, PHOEBE ANN

Phoebe Ann Nathan, age 110, a former slave of Charles Carroll of Carrollton, died at residence on York Road near Baltimore City.

—*Baltimore County Advocate*, February 15, 1862

NEGRO INSURRECTION

“The Talked of Negro Insurrection in Baltimore County”...
Charles Jarrett testified that conspirators were meeting at Stephenson Chapel...no credence given it...

—*Maryland Journal*, July 13, 1867

“NEGROES WHO OWNED SLAVES”
Calvin D. Wilson, author; some references to Maryland (12 pages).

—*Popular Science Monthly*, Nov. 1912

“NEGROES WHO OWNED SLAVES”
Article, but mostly about the South.

—*Democrat & Journal*, Towson, May 18, 1907

NELSON, JOHN

Long biography of the late John Nelson who was the janitor of the Enoch Pratt Free Library for 40 years.

—*Sun*, May 27, 1927.

NETTLES/ANDERSON ESCAPE

A Baltimore-owned slave named Nettles or Anderson was a hired-out cook on the brig *Young America*; he gained freedom by jumping ship onto British soil at Jamaica (long article).

—*Baltimore Republican & Argus*, June 19, 1855

NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [ — ].
NORRIS, REV. WILLIAM

William Norris, the colored preacher, arrested at Hagerstown on the charge of assisting in the escape of slaves from their masters in the county, was after full examination before Justice Williams, discharged, there not being sufficient evidence for his conviction.

—Sun, August 17, 1846.

OBLATE SISTERS

“More Than Most Lives,” anonymous article, long biography and drawing of Sister Ellen Joseph of Oblate Sisters of Providence...

— Baltimore American, May 13, 1894, p. 20

OBLATE SISTERS OF PROVIDENCE CONVENT (B)

Scharf in Chronicles of Baltimore reports tearing down the old house in Richmond Street at Park in order to extend the Avenue (1871), p. 441.

ODD FELLOWS’ HALL, LUTHERVILLE (8)

“LAYING OF A CORNER STONE — The Towsontown and Lutherville Midlanite Societies, colored, participated, on Monday last, in the exercise of laying the corner stone of an Odd Fellows’ Hall for the colored people at Lutherville.”

— Maryland Journal, June 10, 1876

ORCHARD STREET CHURCH

Advertisement announcing dedication on the following day of the House of Worship for the Colored People Connected with the Methodist Episcopal Church on Orchard Street near Ross and Biddle Streets, tomorrow. Minister, the Rev. John Davis.

—Sun, December 21, 1839.

ORCHARD STREET CHURCH

“Disturbing Public Worship,”...colored man Charles Moore sent to jail for disturbance at Orchard Street Church.”

— Republican & Argus, March 29, 1859

ORCHARD STREET CHURCH

“Disturbing public worship.—John Boston, colored, was arrested last night by Officer Smith, charged with disturbing public worship at Orchard Street church. Justice Logan imposed a fine of $10 and cost and in default of payment this morning sent him to jail.”

— Baltimore Republican & Argus, Oct. 22, 1859

NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [ — ].
ORCHARD STREET CHURCH

“Disturbing a Religious Congregation”...at African Church, Orchard Street...one convicted person was a slave owned by Mr. Salter...he had twenty-five on the bare back...

----Republican & Argus, Dec. 10, 1850

OTHELLO PERFORMANCE

“‘Othello’ by Colored Amateurs,”...given at Douglass Institute...

— Sun, Feb. 4, 1887

OUR SAVIOUR LUTHERAN ORPHANAGE FOR COLORED BOYS

This school was on Ivy Mill Lane near Govanstown, inside Baltimore County, per Baltimore Sun, June 18, 1894. It was associated with The Church Our Saviour, the only Lutheran church near Baltimore for African Americans.

OXFORD, HENRY

Obituary of Henry Oxford, a former slave...had lived all his life at the farm of Wm. S. Cowley at Loch Raven...

— Maryland Journal, Feb. 9, 1895

PACA-PARKER FAMILY (11)

1876 District 11 Tax Ledger listed:

Augustus, Charles H., Zachariah, Louisa, Paca (Parkar)...all colored...part of James Park or Onions Inheritance. (32-3/4 acres—1876)

PARKER, RACHEL

Rachel Parker’s petition for freedom, Baltimore County Advocate, May 1, 1852. She was returned to Baltimore City,

—Baltimore County Advocate, July 24.

PARKER FAMILY

Daniel Parker in 1883 had a brother George Parker and a sister-in-law, Cornelia Parker, in Lancaster County. Their property was at present 14323 Cuba Road. [The Parker involved with the Christiana Riot or Resistance was William Parker.]

—Baltimore County Deeds, WMI 139:300.
PARSONS, FANNIE POSEY MAJOR

Obituary of Fannie Posey Major Parsons, keeper of store at Turner Station, managed Balnew Supermarket and other stores.


“PASSING OF OLD NEGRO”

Long essay on the passing of the slave generation in South, esp. South Carolina.

—Sun, May 6, 1904, p. 12

PATAPSCO CHURCH

This county church participated in Sharp Street Church Conference, October 27, 1864.

PATTERSON, NANCY

Nancy Patterson, “a Negro woman about 20 years old” was advertised for sale by Sheriff Joseph Walker in the Baltimore County Advocate, January 3, 1863. The sale was set for the 16th. The Emancipation Proclamation had gone into effect on January 1 but not in Maryland.

PECK, LEWIS, RUNAWAY

Lewis Peck ran away from Joseph Bryant, “a farmer who lived near Patapsco River.” David Edwards also fled from Bryant in 1860.


PENNINGTON, JAMES W. C.

James W. C. Pennington was born on the Eastern Shore, then sold to a master in Washington County [Frisby Tilghman] and was trained as a blacksmith. He ran away and got within four miles of Reisterstown before turning north to Pennsylvania. He became a Presbyterian Minister. His biography, The Fugitive Blacksmith, was published in London in 1850.


St. Lukes ME Church
PLEASANT HILL A.M.E. CHURCH (4)

Baltimore County. Owings Mills church suffers fire damage.—Owings Mills— Fire officials say a bare light bulb started a one-alarm blaze at a church causing about $50,000 damage.

The fire Wednesday at the Mount Pleasant AME church in the 200 block of Tollgate Road caused fire, smoke and water damage to the church’s attic, roof and interior, said Capt. Patrick Kelly, county Fire Department spokesman.

He said a burning light bulb in the attic touched off some nearby paper and clothing shortly after 11 p.m. The blaze was brought under control about 30 minutes after firefighters began battling the fire.

No injuries were reported.

—Sun, October 1, 1993

POLICE DEPARTMENT

“Says Few Negroes Seek Police Jobs,” quotes Chief Lally; mention of Eugene King, secretary of county’s Human Relations Commission,”


POULDING, LOUISA

Louisa Poulding, listed as a mulatto child, was indentured to Peter Lannay for house keeping. [This agreement was on the same page with Lannay’s indentures for apprentices to the trade of calico printing, probably for his city works on Ruxton lane near the harbor.]

—Baltimore County Orphans Court Indentures, WB 9:131

POWELL, SAMUEL


—Maryland Journal, May 7, 1898

PRATT, JAMES

James Pratt, “Towson’s colored bootblack” was arrested for using profane language in the public highway.

—Maryland Journal, May 19, 1900.
PRESTON, JEROME & HENRRY

Ex-slaves of Galloway family of Middle River were interviewed in Baltimore American, June 15, 1918. Quoted in Avenue News, Essex, February 7, 2001, in story about Lorrie Erdman.

PRICE, ROMEO

“Death of Colored Celebrity,” Romeo Price, who was “raised in the family of the father of Chief Justice Taney.” He was 80 years old, a waiter at Barnum’s Hotel.

—Sun, April 4, 1867.

PIERCE, WILLIAM, RUNAWAY

William Pierce fled from John Hickol of Long Green, a farmer about age 50, a hard drinker of whiskey; the master’s wife was a “big red head devil.” Pierce was beaten with a cane for eating one of the Hickol’s chickens. The slaves were only allowed to eat corn bread. William Pierce was age 23. He fled to Canada about 1860.


PINEY, BENJAMIN, RUNAWAY

Benjamin Piney ran away from Mary Hawkins of Baltimore County for fear of being sold to Georgia. He was 20 years old and reached Canada about 1856.


PLOWDEN, REV. ISAAC

The Rev. Isaac Plowden of Cuba Road was interviewed on WMAR-TV by Susan White in the summer of 1978. Mr. Plowden owned a cane grinder for crushing sugar cane which he raised. He also raised tobacco and cured it in a former outhouse.

PROSPECT HILL VILLAGE

Roberta Carter mentioned a new-forgotten African-American cluster of houses on York Road next to Prospect Hill Cemetery (May 9, 1994).

PROVIDENCE ROAD

May 9, 1994, Roberta Carter mentioned a now vanished historic African-American cluster on Providence Road.

QUIGLEY, GRAFTON

“Knoebel, 10th District...Last week the death of Uncle Grafton Quigley, an aged and highly respected colored man, was noticed. He was once of the oldest settlers, and by his exemplary life won the confidence of every one. His funeral was largely attended and the Rev. George Morrison preached the sermon.” — Baltimore County Union, July 2, 1887.

NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [ — ].
QUIGLEY, ELIZABETH

Report of death of Elizabeth Quigley at home of her son Henry Quigley of Lutherville; she had been a slave of the Kelley family of the 8th District.

—Baltimore County Union, September 9, 1905.

QUIGLEYVILLE (10)

An extinct black enclave on Manor Road near present animal shelter— south of Sweet Air...families could have stemmed from Quinn plantation...

Not on 1850 map...But G. Quigley was shown in 1877 atlas, District 10, but well east of Manor Road. See his obituary above.


RAILROAD REGULATIONS

Under the heading, “Philadelphia, Wilmington, and Baltimore Railroad, Spring Arrangements,” the timetable for President Street Station mentioned restrictions on travel by blacks signed by William Crawford, Agent.

—Sun, April 28, 1859, adv.

RELIEF ASSOCIATION, TOWSON (9)

The Transfer Book for Districts 6 to 9 listed in 1885 (folio 510) a list of Relief Association lots sold to various persons..

— Hall of Records #0-37-3-17 T-1481

RENTAL PROPERTY COSTS

Article on “Exploiting Colored Tenants” in Baltimore City.

—Sun, July 27, 1924.

Union ME Chapel
REPUBLICAN MEETING, PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

Meeting of Colored Republicans at Waverley.—A correspondent sends the following:—”Will you please give publicity through the columns of your paper to the public meeting held by the colored Hayes and Wheeler Club of this place, on the evening of the 24th inst. They met in Waverley Hall, after a torch light procession, and in the absence of the engaged speakers were addressed by our fellow citizen, Mr. H.E. White, and several of their members. On the whole the meeting was a success and a colored vote of our district may be considered safe for Hayes and Wheeler. The pitch of their remarks was noted for its truth as portraying the experience of the colored race under Democratic ascendancy, and what might again be their experience were that party to get the reins of this government. Their remarks were not in compliance with grammatical rules—which is another charge against Democracy—but were the honest expression of what they considered their duty. They are a unit, also, for our noble standard-bearer, J. Morrison Harris. [Waverly, formerly spelled “Waverley,” was at that time within Baltimore County.]

— Baltimore County Union, Oct. 28, 1876

REVELS, REV. WILLIE R.

Long article about Rev. Willie R. Revels, new pastor of Bethel A.M.E. Church.[This is not the Revels who served in the U.S. Senate from Mississippi.]

— American, July 18, 1870

RICH, ARTHUR


ROBBERY OF MARKET WOMAN

“Highway Robbery”...of black servant of Colonel Thomas B. Cockey... who lives near Armory...butter, eggs, & poultry stolen by band on way to market.

— Republican & Argus, Jan. 30, 1850

“ROBBERY BY SLAVES”

Article on robbery by the slaves of Thomas Bond of Cockeysville...

— Republican & Argus, August 5, 1854.
ROBERTS, GEORGE

The Maryland Historical Society has a full-length photo by Bendann Brothers of George Roberts who served on the privateer vessel *Chasseur* with his master Captain Thomas Boyle in the War of 1812. He died in Canton, Baltimore County, on January 14, 1861, at age 95.

ROGERS, MOSES, MILLER

Mose Rogers, an 80-year-old African American, was described as an expert flour miller at the Wright Mill near Alberton [now Daniels] in the SW county.

— “Wright’s Old Mill,” *Baltimore County Union*, November 2, 1878.

Moses Rogers’ funeral took place from Union Chapel, Liberty Road, and he was buried there.

—*Ellicott City Times*, January 18, 1879.

ROLLE’S WINDMILL

The 1846 Transfer Book showed that Isaac Rould, identified as colored, purchased or built upon his land on Trappe Road “1 Wind Grist Mill” worth $250. The windmill appeared without an owner’s name on the 1850 county map by J. C. Sidney and P. J. Browne at a place known as Germany Hill. The 1852 map of a proposed water supply system by Thomas Chiffelle showed a “windmill” at the NE corner of Canton Road and Trap Road, while the 1857 map by Robert Taylor showed the “J. Bowles Windmill,” and the 1863 military map shoed Rolles Windmill. Deeds of 1853 show Isaac Rolles buying a parcel of land from the Canton Company. The latest map to show the premises was the 1882 map by E. Robinson of New York, which showed the property lines of L. Rolls but without a structure. Isaac Rolles, however he spelled his name, was obviously a free person when he went into the milling business. Windmills were common along Chesapeake Bay, especially on the Eastern Shore and in Calvert and Anne Arundel Counties. Breezes off the water as low as 5 mph could provide enough free energy to turn the millstones in a typical wooden windmill. The mill was extinct when mentioned in *Real Stories from Baltimore County History* in 1917.—JWM

RUNAWAY SLAVES

The 1853 Transfer Book, Volume 3, District 8, shows that Negroes George and Ellen ran away from Elisha Parks, each assessed at $300.

(1858 entries, folio 1—MSA Accession T-1481-0-37-3-8)

RUNAWAY SLAVES

Four slaves ran away from Thomas D. Cockey of J. Others belonging to Miss C. D. Owens also fled.

—*Sun*, October 28, 1854.
RUNAWAY SLAVES, LIST OF

Runaway Slave Advertisements / a Documentary History from the 1730s to 1790

Volume 2, Maryland
Compiled by Lathan A. Windley
Greenwood Press
Westport, Conn.
1983

RUNAWAY SLAVE VIA RAILROAD

John Stump of Cecil County sued the Philadelphia, Wilmington & Baltimore Railroad for allowing his slave to escape. The trial was moved to Harford County.

—Sun, September 30, 1854

RYAN, AUNTY EMELINE

“Aunty Emeline Is Dead,”...age 88...675 Pierce Street...Emeline Ryan...born on Elijah Taylor estate on Hillen Road...

— Sun, Nov. 25, 1907, p. 8

SALE OF NEGROES

“Sale of Negroes” . . . free persons convicted of larceny were sold: Richard Fortie to George H. Carman, Henry Jenkins to Mortimer Watkins, and Emily Taylor to Emanuel C. Wade.

—Baltimore County Advocate, July 16, 1859.

SAMBO, RUNAWAY

William Nelson advertised for Sambo who had run away from the Little Falls of Gunpowder area. There was a branded “O” on one shoulder and a scar on the crown of his head.

—Pennsylvania Gazette, September 29, 1763.

SANDY BOTTOM (9)

“Suggests Sandy Bottom Slum Clearance Idea” . . . proposal of Samuel Edge, president of Bd. of Ed. ... photo on inside page ...

—Jeffersonian, Feb. 16, 1940
SARAH, MAMMY

“Negress, 105 Years Old, Is County’s Oldest Ex-slave,” by Nancy Hanks. “Mammy Sarah.” No last name given. Born near South River in Anne Arundel County. She lived near Catonsville and Ellicott City.


SCARLET, JOSEPH P.

Item on the death of Joseph P. Scarlet, who had participated in the events at Christiana, Pennsylvania, in 1851.

—Baltimore County Union, July 22, 1882.

SCHOOLS

Colored schools...established by Board of School Commissioners...at Cross Keys and Sweet Air.

— Maryland Journal, May 3, 1873

SCHOOL AT “HELLTOWN” (11)

“Accident in the 11th District — About a week since, John Smith, colored, had one of his arms badly fractured whilst attending the new colored school at Helltown.

—Baltimore County Union, May 24, 1873

SCHOOL HOUSES

Sue Ellery Green Chapelle counted 54 segregated school houses in the annual reports...May 9, 1994

SCHOOL HOUSE—FOR BLACK PUPILS

...school house for colored children on Hillen Road dedicated...list of speakers...ceremony on Thursday, the 19th... In 9th Election District.

— Maryland Journal, Sept. 21, 1867

SCHOOL ORGANIZATION

“Colored Peoples’ Meeting”...residents of Towson & Long Green...reopening of schools...

— Baltimore County Union, March 20, 1869

SCOTT, AQUILLA (3)

Mentions of Rev. E.W. Scott & Aquilla Scott...at Colored Camp Meeting

— Maryland Journal, August 17, 1872

NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [—].
SCOTT, WILLIAM

“Probably the Oldest man in the United States.—A reliable gentleman in this town informs us that William Scott, colored, for many years a resident of this county, but now living in Baltimore, is no doubt the oldest man in the United States, if the proofs which he holds are correct, and our informant believes they are. He claims to be 140 years of age. He says he remembers Washington’s father well, and his memory being still unimpaired he is able to recount with vividness incidents which occurred upwards of a century ago. Our informant says that in 1842 he knew Scott well. He then lived in a small house on what is now Highland Park property, and at that time he was looked upon as the oldest man in the community. Scott is a local preacher and was present at the first M.E. Conference ever held in Maryland, at which time he was invited to take a seat on the platform beside the presiding officer of the Conference. If the story of this old man is correct—and we have no reason to disbelieve it—he is certainly an extraordinary person and an extended sketch of his life could not help but prove interesting. As soon as we learn of his place of residence in the city we shall call upon him and examine the documents in his possession by which he claims to be able to establish his age beyond question.”

—Baltimore County Union, August 24, 1878.

SENNOTT, JOSEPH

Report of slave Joseph Sennott’s abduction.

—Baltimore County Advocate, May 8, 1852.

SETH, SLAVE

 Advertisement that Negro Seth ran away from Baltimore County Free School where Patrick Brannan was master...

— Maryland Gazette, Sept. 1, 1757

SHADWELL, RUN-AWAY

Thomas Cockey advertised for Shadwell, “a country born Negro” about age 45. Shadwell had previously tried to pass himself off as a free man and had been restrained from running off to join the French and Indians west of Frederick County. Shadwell had an iron collar and fetters when he fled.

—Pennsylvania Gazette, September 26, 1765.

SHARP, RETTA

Retta Sharp, of Lutherville, colored, was killed by train at the station, age 59.

—Baltimore County Union, July 21, 1906

NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [ — ].
SIMMS, BENJAMIN LOUIS

One year into the Civil War, the Sheriff was unable to find a serious bidder for Benjamin Louis Simms, sentenced to be sold out of the State. Highest offer was $5. Simms was returned to jail.

—*Baltimore County Advocate*, March 15, 1862.

“Not Sold [Sheriff was still unable to sell Simms on fourth attempt. The county weekly noted that ‘good hands will hardly sell at any price.’].”


SIMON, JOSEPH

“The Centennial Negro at the Baltimore County Jail”

News item on the 100-year-old Joseph Simon, alias Simon J. Bondsley, a 100-year-old resident of the jail.

—*Maryland Journal*, Sept. 2, 1876

SLAVE CEMETERY, BUNKER HILL (7)

Dorothy Gosnell reported a slave cemetery to the MHT in 1980. See file folder on Masemore Mill.

SLAVES’ BANQUET

“Suffering Slaves of the South”

...story of sumptuous dinner given to favored slaves in Texas...

—*Republican & Argus*, Feb. 6, 1855 (Baltimore)

SLAVE DEALERS (B)

Cash For Negroes.—I wish to purchase immediately a lot of young and likely NEGROES, for which the highest cash price will be paid. Persons having Negroes to sell please call at No. 12 Camden st., Baltimore, or address through post office. All letters promptly attended to. Negroes received to board.

U. M. WILSON.

Slaves Wanted.—We are at all times purchasing SLAVES, paying the highest cash prices. Persons wishing to sell will please call at 243 Pratt street. (Slater’s old stand.) Communications addressed to

B. M. & W. L. CAMPBELL.

—*Daily Baltimore Republican*, Sept. 20, 1856

NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [ — ].
SLAVE ESCAPED

Reports of escaped slave shot in Pennsylvania.

—Baltimore County Advocate, May 8 and 22, 1852.

SLAVES CAPTURED

Slaves who had run away from R. M. Dorsey, Esq., and Dr. S. Rogers of Howard County were captured along the Northern Central Railroad at Parkton.

—Baltimore County Advocate, July 6, 1850.

SLAVES ESCAPED

“A few nights since three slave women, two belonging to Mrs. M. Worthington, and one to Mr. Hugh Horner, attempted to escape with the 9th New York Regiment, returning home. One of Mrs. Worthington’s succeeded, but the others were captured in Bosley’s swamp.”

—Baltimore County Advocate, August 17, 1861.

SLAVES, ESCAPED

The much quoted “stampede of slaves” from the neighborhood of Warren Factory was reported.

—Sun, April 27, 1863

SLAVES: ESCAPED

“Another Stampede.—Eight negro servants ran away from the estate of John Ridgely, of Hampton, near this place on Sunday night last—five men, two women, and one child. A servant man belonging to Mr. Joseph Parks, also went at the same time. Nothing has been heard of them since, and it is supposed they have gone north.

Since the above was in type we learn that Mr. Ridgely’s servants have been caught in Baltimore, and are in jail.”

—Baltimore County Advocate, May 9, 1863

SLAVES: ESCAPED

Four slaves from Texas, Md., ran away.

—Sun, October 28, 1854.
SLAVES, ESCAPED

Slaves escaped from Campbell’s jail on Pratt Street near Howard.

—Sun Magazine, “100 Years Ago,” September 8, 1862.

SLAVES, ESCAPED

June 1: Capt. Webster, of the Revenue Cutter Forward, reports having discovered a whale-boat under sail, coming around Cape Henlopen, full of men. He sent his boats in pursuit, and they turned out to be Negroes supposed to be runaway slaves.

—Sun, June 1, 1844.

SLAVES, ESCAPED

Thomas Shea, Samuel Webster, Antill Deaver, and Richard More advertised for the return of several escaped but nameless slaves, one of whom was a good carpenter and sawyer; one slave formerly belonged to Dr. Richard Hill. A nameless white cooper was also sought.

—Pennsylvania Gazette, August 30, 1739.

SLAVES, ESCAPED

The slaves who ran away from R. M. Dorsey and Dr. S. Rogers of Howard County were captured at Parkton by seven Northern Central railroad track workers, who shared a $300 reward.

—Baltimore County Advocate, July 6, 1850.

SLAVE “EXETER”

Advertisement that Slave “Exeter” ran away from Patapsco Neck. [The name “Exeter” turned up as a slave’s name in records of Kingsbury Furnace.]

—Maryland Gazette, June 26, 1755.

SLAVES FREED BY COURTS

Various indentures show that recently and illegally imported slaves set free by the courts were made apprentices on December 30, 1812. The apprentices were named Goumah, alias Bongee, also Bumbo, apprenticed to Elisha Tyson [the famous abolitionist]; Others were named Mingo, Zinger, Pinger, Zinjo, Banna, Goulou, Qurat, Canto, and Heebon.

—Baltimore County Orphans Court Indentures, WB 9:1, 2, 3.
SLAVE JAIL

The inmates of Campbell’s Negro Jail on Pratt Street near Howard were released by a Union army officer.

—*Baltimore County Advocate*, August 1, 1863, quoting the *Sun*.

SLAVES: LAWS ON DIET OF

Legal restrictions against feeding one’s Negro slaves terrapin meat more than once a week, cursing before a justice of the peace, dueling, and other practices which are not practiced so much any more will be removed at the next session of the Legislature if present plans of an “obsolete law” committee are adopted.

— *Sun*, November 4, 1928 (in “50 Years Ago”)

SLAVE OWNERS’ ASSOCIATION

Report the Richard I. Worthington attended a meeting of slave owners.

—*Baltimore County Advocate*, May 28, 1859

SLAVE OWNER KILLED

Report that James Hugh Kennedy of Hagerstown died; wounded in Negro riot at Carlisle, Pennsylvania, where he was “recovering his property.” He died Friday last (June 25).

—*Howard District Press*, Ellicott Mills, July 3, 1847

SLAVE TRADE

“Revival of the Slave Trade,” editorial blaming the Emperor Louis Napoleon with reviving the slave trade for French benefit...

— Baltimore *Republican & Argus*, Jan. 12, 1859

“SLAVERY IN MARYLAND”

Editorial on long-range outlook [long text].

— *Daily Baltimore Republican*, Oct. 1, 1858, p. 1

SMITH, ARCHIBALD

July 20: Mr. Ridgely, of Hays, Zell & Ridgely, returned last evening from Harrisburg, having in custody Archibald Smith, a free Negro, charged with enticing away the slaves of Richard Emery Esq., of Baltimore County. [The Emory Farm was “Manor Glen” on Jarrettsville Pike near Harford County line.]

— *Sun*, July 20, 1843
SMITH, WILLIAM, FUGITIVE

“The Slave Killing in Columbia.” —Baltimore newspaper quotes New York Tribune which had received a letter from Samuel Evans dated Columbia, Pennsylvania, May 1, reported that Thaddeus Stevens was “taking an interest in the escape of Ridgely. [Ridgely, a white Marylander, had killed Smith, a fugitive slave.]”

—Republican & Argus, May 5, 1852.

SMITH, WILLIAM, HIS KILLER ABSOLVED

Resolution No. 12...relative to the killing of a Fugitive Slave in Pennsylvania, by Archibald G. Ridgely...of city of Baltimore...about May 1, 1852...resolved that it does not constitute murder...

—Laws of Maryland, Acts of 1852...Resolution No. 12.

“Verdict in the Killed Slave Case”...slave killed in Columbia, Pa. ... “William Smith came to his death from the contents of a pistol fired by _____ Ridgely, whilst the said Smith was in the custody of said Ridgely and Deputy Marshall Snyder of Harrisburg.”

—Republican & Argus, May 3, 1852

SOLOMON, RUN-AWAY

Thomas Cockey advertised for “a salt water Negro named Solomon” about 24 years old, who had previously been captured in Newcastle, Delaware, and in Somerset County.

—Pennsylvania Packett, October 29, 1778.

SNOWDEN, BETSY

Blind woman, Betsy Snowden, died at Bay View, had been admitted to Alms House, October 24, 1823, at age 20, and lived there 60 years.

—Sun, May 4, 1883.

Carver High School

NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [ — ].
SPARROWS POINT BLACK CHURCH

Cornerstone laid for colored Methodist Episcopal Church at Sparrows Point...by presiding elder of the conference Rev. J. W. Dansbury...cost to be $700...frame building...

Democrat & Journal, October 4, 1890

SPINNER

Benjamin Williams, the administrator of Ruth Williams, advertised a good house wench “that can card, and spin on the woolen and flax wheel.”

—Maryland Gazette, Annapolis, November 3, 1763

SPRIGG, GEORGE WASHINGTON

“Death of a Patriarch”...obituary of George Washington Sprigg, age nearly 90...black person...(apparently free)...lived in Old Town, Baltimore...had been given a suit of clothes by Martha Washington on the occasion of his Baptism...born in Georgetown...knew George Washington...

—Republican & Argus, December 2, 1852

SQUALLO

Stephen Onion, the iron master, advertised for the escaped furnace worker, Squallo, 30 years old, born in Burlington “in the Jerseys” and formerly owned by Dr. Redman. “He is an impudent fellow, often singing and making a noise like a slow trumpet with his mouth.”

—Pennsylvania Gazette, August 4, 1743, and September 12, 1745.

ST. PAUL’S M.P. CHURCH

Cornerstone of St.Paul’s M. P. Church (colored) on Old Harford Road, 6 miles from Baltimore was laid by Rev. E. W. Scott. Contractor was George Herne. Frame church costing $120

—Sun, November 3, 1879

STEPHENSON’S CHAPEL

Stephenson’s Chapel in the 8th Election District [MHT Site BA 427] was mentioned as scene of a Negro “conspiracy.”

—Maryland Journal, July 13, 1867

STEPPS ALLEY

The side alley next to Stepp’s Bar on n/s Chesapeake Avenue, Towson. Probably the area complained of by Logi Bonnet in the Jeffersonian in the 1930s.

Calvin Davenport took candid photo of it...displayed 1994.
SUGAR, CATHERINE

“Catherine Sugar, colored, believed to be the oldest woman in Baltimore County, died Wednesday morning at her home on Winter’s Lane, this place. Her age was given as 104 years.”

—Catonsville Argus, February 13, 1904.

SUGARS, CATHERINE

Catherine Sugars, colored, who claimed to be 101 years old and the oldest woman in Maryland, died at her home in Catonsville a few days ago after a long illness of dropsy.

—Baltimore County Union, February 20, 1904.

SUICIDE, TOWSON

“Attempt to Commit Suicide—On Monday last, a little colored girl, aged about eleven years, in the employ of Mr. S. Parker Bosley, of this place, attempted to commit suicide by taking a quantity of strychnine. Soon after taking the poison she became very ill, when Dr. Jarrett was called to see her. He at once saw that it was a case of poisoning, emetics were freely administered, and the girl was soon relieved. No cause has been assigned for the foolish act.”

“This is the third time the girl has attempted suicide. Once before she drank about a pint of whisky at one draught, and again took a quantity of indigo.”

—Baltimore County Union, April 17, 1875

SWAN, PRISCILLA

Priscilla Swan, wife of Benjamin Swan, and former slave of William Curtis of My Lady’s Manor, died. Buried at Foster’s Meeting House. Benjamin Swan was slave of Victor Holmes.

—Maryland Journal, November 23, 1895.

SWEET AIR SCHOOL (10)

Board of School Commissioners...voted for...colored school at Sweet Air...also Cross Keys...

—Maryland Journal, May 3, 1873

TALBOT, BENJAMIN

Obituary of Benjamin Talbot, a former slave, in Harford County, age 99. Born on the farm of James Wolf in Baltimore County in 1787. When freed, he worked for Mrs. Hollingsworth at the Copper Factory. He bought 77 acres from Dr. Lennox Birkhead, then sold to John M. Shanklin.

—Baltimore County Union, September 11, 1886.
TALBOTT, GEORGE WASHINGTON

This free black was kidnapped by Sheriff Poole of Cecil County using a forged bill of sale... to sell in Richmond...rescued by Deputy Marshall Manley...locked up in jail at Towsontown.

— *Daily Baltimore Republican*, August 29, 1857

TALLEY, ANDREW, APPRENTICE

Andrew Talley (black) - apprenticed to Joseph Scott, Jr., miller... Sept. 4, 1798.

— Wilkins file, Baltimore County Indentures, Maryland Historical Society Library

TAYLOR, SUSAN RUSSELL

“*Death of a Former Slave.*”— . . . Susan Russell Taylor in Baltimore City . . . she was a slave at Cockeysville on a farm founded in 1752 by Edward Talbott, still owned by Aquilla Talbott. Susan Russell Taylor was born in 1802, manumitted ca, 1846-11847.

— *Maryland Journal*, August 5, 1893

THOMPSON, ELIZABETH

“Elizabeth Thompson, colored, widow of Ralph Thompson, aged 85 years, and one of the oldest residents of Boring, died last Thursday.”

— *Baltimore County Union*, Saturday, May 3, 1913.

TOOLEY, RUN-AWAY

Thomas Cockey, in the same advertisement reporting the escape of Solomon, offered a reward for the capture of Tooley, “a salt water Negro,” about 24 years old. Tooley had been seen at the head of Elk River, and Cockey suggested he was making a dash for the English army.

— *Pennsylvania Packet*, October 29, 1778.
TOWSON SCHOOL HOUSE

A proposal for a “School for Colored Persons” was reported in the Towson weekly. The building was to be constructed on the land of Ann Harris adjoining Mr. Payne’s brick yard, which would have been Hillen Road near present Black & Decker plant. Lumber was to be provided by the Freedmen’s Bureau.

—Maryland Journal, April 20, 1867.

TRAIN ACCIDENT

Report that a “Negro boy” jumped onto the Philadelphia railroad cars along Canton Avenue; an employee of the railroad raised an umbrella to knock him off, when the boy fell with his right hand across the track. “The wheel passed over it . . . amputation will be necessary.”

—Republican & Argus, March 13, 1860.

TRAPPE ROAD FARMER

Story of “old colored man” who owned 3 acres on Trappe Road ... rowdies kept stealing his fowls and tearing up the vegetables ... in the county ... can’t something be done?

—Republican & Argus, July 20, 1853

TYSON AFRICAN U. M. P. CHURCH

The thirtieth anniversary of the Tyson African Union Methodist Protestant Church at Melvale, of which Rev. E. W. Scott is pastor, will be celebrated from November 18 to 30.

—Baltimore County Democrat, October 31, 1896

UMPLETT, IRA

Ira Umplett purchased 24 acres east of New Market from John S. Hollingshead in 1869. The Transfer Book entry for 1873 showed that Umplett was “Cold.” A mill came with this property, and the 1874 update showed, “Saw Mill Rotted Down” with $100 taken off the assessment. The 1877 county atlas showed Ira Umplett with an old mill at present 1228 Harris Mill Road.

—Baltimore County Deeds, 61:554.

UNCLE TOM, MARYLAND CONNECTION

The Rev. Josiah Henson was a slave on the Isaac Riley farm 4 miles from Rockville. The Riley family shipped their slaves to Kentucky, whence Henson escaped in 1830. His memoirs, published in 1849 were one of Harriet Beecher Stowe’s sources for Uncle Tom’s Cabin (1851). Riley’s own residence survived in the suburban development of Luxmanor in 1976.

UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

Plan to mark the underground railroad sites by Cumberland County Historical Society, Pennsylvania.

— *Union News*, Towson, August 17, 1912

UNDERGROUND RAILROAD

Arrest of William & Susanna Adams, colored, for trying to send slave of Thos. E. Talbott, Esq., on the underground railroad.

— *Republican & Argus*, November 27, 1849

UNION RAID

Report that Union troops guarding railroad broke into home of 90-year-old Negro woman...who died from terror....

— *Baltimore County Advocate*, November 16, 1861

VETERANS, DECORATED

“Three Negro soldiers from this vicinity have been awarded their second Bronze Stars for their service in the European area... The men are Private first class Vernon L. Coates [spelling: ?], Private James E. Allmond, both of Catonsville, and Private first class Joseph H. Scott of Arbutus. The soldiers are members of a quartermaster service company, which has unloaded and forwarded more than 100,000 tons of ammunition and thousands of tons of supplies since the Invasion of Normandy. Just after D-Day all their work was accomplished under enemy fire.”


VOODOO

The practice of burying an effigy was described as “Ethiopian Ignorance.”

— *Gazette*, Baltimore, July 24, 1871 [column 2]

WALLACE, BECKY

Obituary of Aunt Becky Wallace, ex-slave of Amon Bosley of Texas, Md. She had been employed at Bosley’s lime kiln checking the number of bushels loaded into rail cars.

— *Maryland Journal*, Towson, February 1, 1879.
WALLACE, THOMAS

Sheriff R. W. Hook advertised the auction of Thomas Wallace, age 25.

— *Baltimore County Advocate*, June 11, 1859

Thomas Wallace, Negro of Baltimore County, arrested for enticing slaves to run away...

— *Baltimore County Advocate*, September 17, 1859

WALLY, WILLIAM

“A Persevering Colored Man”...story quoted from a New York paper...William Wally...born a slave in 1811 in the family of Robert Oliver, Esq., of Maryland...part time employed by Benjamin H. Ellicott of Ellicotts Mills...Ellicott purchased his freedom...Wally moved to New Bedford, Mass. ...repaid Ellicott by 1828...some $850...

— *Sun*, January 8, 1856

WARNER, DANIEL B.

Hon. Daniel B. Warner was inaugurated as president of Liberia on January 4; he was a native of Baltimore County, born on Hookstown Road. Appointed Rev. E. W. Blyden as Secretary of State.

— ”Items of News,” *Sun*, March 4, 1864

WATCH NIGHT - See Emancipation Proclamation re December 31, 1862.

WATKINS, JAMES

James Watkins, born in 1831, ran away from the farm of Luke Ensor near Cockeysville and wrote two books, both published in England, about his escape, published in 1852 and 1860:


. *Struggle for Freedom Or the Life of James Watkins, Formerly a Slave in Maryland, U.S.; in which is Detailed a Graphic Account of His Extraordinary Escape from Slavery, Notices of the Fugitive Slave Law, the Sentiments of American Divines on the Subject of Slavery, etc., etc.* (By the author: Manchester, England, 1860).

Book listed on web-site of University of North Carolina. Discovered by Jennie Mazur, National Park Service, 2003. The Abraham Ensor farm, later inherited by Luke B. Ensor, was at 720 Belfast Road, and the stone mansion there is now called “Young Jacob’s Choice,” MHT Inventory Site, BA 373.
WATKINS, MARY

“A colored woman named Mary Watkins died in Baltimore last Sunday at the age of 106 years. She was born in Maryland in 1790 and saw part of the Battle of North Point.”

—Baltimore County Union, June 10, 1905.

WAYMAN, BISHOP

Long biography of Bishop Wayman of A. M. E. Church...full column...

—Sun, November 6, 1886

Drawing of Bishop Wayman’s birthplace at Tuckahoe Neck, Caroline County, Maryland, 1821.

—American, December 1, 1895

WELLS, HARRY

John Ridgely, “living near Baltimore town,” advertised for the escaped Harry Wells, “known by the name of Bond’s Harry,” a 35-year-old country-born fellow, skilled at wrestling and fighting.

—Pennsylvania Gazette, June 16, 1748.

WELSH, JOHN


WEST, BENJAMIN

“Benjamin West, alias Owen Beard, was advertised as committed to the county jail as a runaway by Sheriff R. W. Hook.

—Baltimore County Advocate, March 19, 1859.

WEST, BENJAMIN

“A Venerable Colored Citizen.” . . . Towson newspaper reports that Benjamin West had regaled the Baltimore Sun with his claim of being 108 and remembering George Washington. He was well known in Towson and not that old...

—Baltimore County Union, Nov. 24, 1877
WHIT MONDAY

The fading away of the Whit Monday holiday observed by black people; it was once much celebrated. [The Monday after Pentecost, a holiday in England.]

—Union News, May 17, 1913.

WIDGEON, JOHN

“The Janitor as Scientist, His Valuable Work for the Maryland Academy” an article with drawings of the exhibits at the Maryland Academy of Sciences.

—American, April 22, 1894.

“John Widgeon, Scientist and His Battle Upwards.”

—Sun, December 15, 1907.

“John Widgeon, Afro-American Scientist on Wild and Domestic Coons.” [This manuscript by Widgeon seems to be a satire or spoof. Widgeon was a collector of natural and mineral specimens as well as janitor of the Academy.]

—Sun, November 15, 1906, p. 15.

WIGGAN, WILFRED S.

Wilfred S. Wiggan, age 35, died of consumption. He was the teacher at the colored school in Towsontown, a native of Jamaica.

—Sun, April 27, 1878

WILD, FENDY

Fendy Wild, a 17-year-old mulatto boy ran away from Wheeler Clark, jailor....

—Howard District Press, July 31, 1847, adv.

WILLIAMS, ABRAHAM

Abraham Williams, “(col. man)”, was listed with 23 acres in Patapsco Neck in the 1823 Tax list of Old District 4.

WILLIAMS, ALEXANDER

Obituary of this black resident, age 74

—Baltimore County Union, November 27, 1909

NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [ — ].
WILLIAMS, BENJAMIN

Report of filing will of Benjamin Williams of Monkton, Troyer Road vicinity...

— *Baltimore County Democrat*, May 3, 1890

WILLIAMS, ELIZABETH

Elizabeth Williams lost all her toes walking to Philadelphia, 1857. Age 20. Fled from Samuel Ward near Wrightstown, Baltimore County. Said that Samuel Ward was “a very bad man.”


WILLIAMS, GEORGE

“Run Away Slave Captured”.... George Williams owned by a Mr. Fritz in one of the counties...

— *Daily Baltimore Republican*, September 2, 1859

WILLIAMS, GEORGE W.

George W. Williams, of Ohio, a colored man...lectured at the...on the Congo.

— *Sun*, February 17, 1887

WILSON, BERTRAM WADSWORTH

Bertram Wadsworth Williams was the physics lab technician at Goucher College for 52 years and had a hand in designing the Towson campus. An optical lab was named in his memory. His work was on exhibit at Julia Rogers Library in March 2005.

WINDER, SAMUEL

Obituary of Samuel Winder, member of Foote Hill Methodist Church and Odd Fellows, age 42, at Maryland General Hospital; he resided at Cockeysville. His parents survived.

—*Baltimore County Union*, September 5, 1903
WISNER’S GROVE CAMP

“Colored Camp”...report of white people attending a colored camp ground at Wisner’s Grove...to see “the sable religionists.”

[various snide comments]

— *Maryland Journal*, Towson, August 16, 1884

[Some degree of social contact at any rate...]

WITCHCRAFT CASE

...Rachel Payne...charged with attempting to bewitch Ann Higgins (both colored)...performing incantations about Higgins’ door...used handful of charmed dust...that resembled table salt...acquitted of charge...

— *Republican & Argus*, March 24, 1842

WOODS MEETING

“Woods Meeting.” Rev. D. A. Payne scheduled to preach. Seventeen cars of colored people attended camp meeting at Ryder’s Switch.

— *Baltimore County Advocate*, July 20, 1850.

WOODS MEETING

“On Sunday last, the people of color held a religious meeting in Mr. Austen’s woods, near Glencoe station, on the Northern Central Railroad. A large crowd assembled there, both white and colored.”

— *Baltimore County Advocate*, August 17, 1859

JARED WOODYEAR

Jared Woodyear ran away from John A. Butler and left Butler’s mare south of New Market (Maryland Line) and apparently walked the short distance remaining into York County, Pa.

— *Baltimore County Advocate*, March 2, 1861.

WORTHINGTON SLAVES

In a runaway poster dated October 26, 1841, Rezin and John Worthington along with Jacob Wolf and Henry Fite advertised for seven escaped slaves, the only one of whom who had a surname was Jesse Banks, age 18. (Poster displayed March 2000 at Maryland Historical Society Museum, Accession No. 1996:75.1).

*NOTE: Editorial comments and addenda are enclosed in square brackets [ — ].*
WORTHINGTON, WILLIAM

William Worthington had a house overlooking the Susquehanna where he hid escapees along the Underground Railroad. [House is now extinct.]

—Samuel Mason, _Historical Sketches of Harford County, Maryland_ (1940), p. 118.

SULKY WRIGHT

“A Ripe Old Age”...Sulky Wright...a colored woman...in 19th Ward on Fremont Street...documentary evidence that she was 120 years old.

— _Republican & Argus_, August 24, 1850

ZION CHURCH (B)

Report of the founding minister, the Rev. Forman, being replaced...dispute...an A. M. E. church near Govans.

— _Maryland Journal_, May 16, 1868