

State of Maryland Caroline County to wit

Thomas heretofore to wit, on the twenty seventh day of July in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and eighteen William Franklin Harper of Caroline County by deed of manumission duly executed acknowledged and recorded amongst the records of Caroline County did manumit and set free a negro man named Step to be free from the date of the said manumission as it appears of record; and whereas the said negro man Step has made application to me for a Certificate of his freedom agreeably to the act of a assembly in such case made and provided, and being satisfied by the oath of William Montie of the County aforesaid that the said negro man named Step for whom this Certificate is made is the identical person mentioned in said manumission I do therefore grant his said application and hereby Certify that from the tenor of the said manumission he is under the age of forty five years (say forty years) of a dark brown complexion five feet eight inches high or thereabouts, his little finger on his left hand Crooked in the middle joint a small scar on his left breast a little above the nipple and a small mark or scar in the middle of his forehead was raised in Caroline County and has no other notable marks that I have observed.

Seal

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the public seal of my office this 20th day of October Anno Domini 1818
J. Richardson Clerk of
Caroline County Court

State of Maryland Caroline County to wit

Whereas application hath been made to me by a negro man named Noah Croce for a certificate of his freedom agreeably to an act of the General Assembly of Maryland passed at November of 1808 Eight hundred and five, by which said act free negroes and mulattoes are permitted to travel out of this State, upon their obtaining of a certificate of being free born, and whereas also upon the oath of Joseph Price of Caroline County aforesaid that the said negro man Noah Croce for whom this Certificate is made was free born, I do therefore grant his said application, and hereby Certify that he is five feet five inches high or thereabouts, says he is about twenty five years of age, his complexion yellow was born & raised in Caroline