

**26 September 1834**

**J. B. T. Thornton vs Mary Gwatkin**

The deposition of James Fewell & Redmon Foster taken on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of September 1834 at the tavern of Robert Williams agreeable to the annexed notice which deposition unto be read as evidence in an Injunction case now depending in the County Court of Prince William between James B. T. Thornton plaintiff and Mary Gwatkins defendant. The deponents being first duly sworn deposeth and saith as follows in answer to the following interrogations.

Question by the Plaintiffs – Do you or do you not recollect of my having hired a negro man named Reuben, said to be the property of the defendant in the year 1826, if so please state what was the state of his health.

Answer – I lived a near neighbor to said Thornton in the year of 1826 and was at Thornton's here frequently & have knowledge of said Thornton the man spoken of, and further know that the negro man was sick in the spring and fall and I think did not render to Doctor Thornton more than half service during the year, and further this deponent saith not.

James Fewell

Question: by the plaintiff to Redmon Foster

Do you, or do you not know that a Negro man named Reuben, hired by me from the defendant was very sick in the fall of the year 1826 & so ill as to require medical aid and attention and that the plaintiff was a practicing physician and attended said Negro in that sickness.

Answer: I believe that the plaintiff hired said Negro, and I know said negro was extremely sick in the month of September and was unable to render services the balance of the year and that the plaintiff was a time a practicing physician and I believe that the charge of \$15 for medical services and medicines from 1<sup>st</sup> Sept. until 1 December 1826 in the plaintiffs account is reasonable.

R. Foster

Prince William County to Wit:

The above depositions were personally subscribed & sworn to by James Fewell & Redmon Foster before me one of the Justices of the Peace for the County aforesaid this 26<sup>th</sup> Sept. 1834.