The State of Tennessee, }
County of Shelby, } Be it remembered
that on this 1st day of
March, A.D. 1866, before the
undersigned, a Justice of the
Peace in and for said County
and State aforesaid, personally
came Neil McPherson, Charles
Charles, Christopher Columbus
Charles, Hezekiah Charles and
Alex Charles, colored persons
of good character, citizens of
said County and State, and
made oath that they have
been acquainted with the
said Charles family for
many years, that they
believe the said Charles
family are descendants
of Negroes who were
slaves in the State of
Tennessee before the
abolition of slavery in
said State, and that they
believe the said Charles
family are free by
birth, and have never
been slaves, and that
they are not the slaves
of any person or persons
whatever. Sworn to and
subscribed before me
this the day and
year aforesaid, witness
my hand and seal of
office, the day and
year last aforesaid.
Neil McPherson
Charles Charles
Christopher Columbus
Charles
Hezekiah Charles
Alex Charles
Thos. Chester
J. P.