

To the Honourable the Judge of the Northern Circuit sitting in and for the County of St. Lawrence.

The Petitioner of such a free Harbour
humbly sheweth.

That your petitioner was heretofore the
slave of one Jonathan Hubbard of the County of
St. Lawrence as such he lived with said master
the said Jonathan Hubbard until about the month
of August last he having been master when
the said Jonathan Hubbard by an instrument in writing
under his hand and seal manumitted your
petitioner after the death of him the said master
that stood afterwards the said Jonathan Hubbard
wherby your petitioner became free.

Your petitioner further states that Jonathan
Hubbard of the County of St. Lawrence now claims
your petitioner as a slave - Wherefore your
petitioner prays your honor to make such
order in his behalf to enable him to sue
for his freedom & the law requires.

Audited

Arch his mark X

Book a Library
by
Samuel May Jr.

John or Jacob
1st 1878
A. F. Gannett
600

Missouri Territory St. Louis County, Mo.
Copy of the Legislature of 1817.

The United States of America to the Honorable the Circuit Court
do command you have the Body of such a black man by Christian name
as may be called, when you earliest convenient, and in consideration with the day
when of the baptism & election of the said black you have before the Honorable
Court Clerk your copy of the body of the former witness of the history
aforesaid at his home in the County of St. Louis & Township of St. Ferdinand
forthwith to do and receive what on this copy may consider of him
in this behalf, & have this done his will. Whish Nathaniel Courtney
to have copy of the body of the former friend of the history aforesaid
his worth say of May or June last eight hundred and eighteen.

M. B. Tucker.



Before the Honourable No. 43. Justice of his Honour
May 11th 1817.

In obedience to the commands of the author above
present I have here before the Honourable No. 43.
Justice in age of the Court of the Northern Circuit
in the Territory of Missouri at his home in the Town-
ship of St. Ferdinand & County of St. Louis the body
of such the above named black man whom
I claim property as my slave as will appear
by a Bill of sale herewith shown dated the 2nd
day

day of March 1818 - and at the time of the foregoing
you except the same book now & still is
my property. This is the day because of the capture
& destruction of the same book the other -

Providence March

Ed. Parker

Chancery

Mary Thompson
Holmes Lawyer in
Apperal

The book is and will
remain so by virtue of
having got the same to
such names and

(R. D. Parker)

Ex parte Beck

In an suit of habeas corpus.

The return in this case presents a question which I am incompetent to try. It seems to be a question of personal rights alone. It becomes a controversy in which a right to personal liberty is alleged on the one hand, and a claim of property on the other. This last is beyond my jurisdiction. The Constitution to the Constitution of the United States Art 7, and the organic Law Art 14, require a jury before a question of property can be decided. If the habeas corpus law therefore requires such a jury to apply this remedy in this case, I should refuse to do so, because in so doing I must interfere with the paramount authority of the Constitution and the Organic Law. But in fact I do not understand the law as requiring any such thing. The legislation on the same day passed a law providing the remedy of personal claims - as slaves, & therefore have no doubt they intended this law for the relief of persons not so claimed. Such is the spirit of Magna Charta which gives the protection only to free men. Its language is, "whence liberis hominibus;" Legislation similar in England as in the present it would enable slaves here. The true question which has now to be settled would be whether the Negro and all his descendants

was the property of Captain Abbott, a. of George Abbott
& Mrs. I am unaccustomed to try such a question under any
modification of circumstances.

I am so willing to give you in the case, but leave the
applicant in the possession of Bacchus Harris, to prove
he ready which he has pointed out

N. D. Taylor
J. N. C. M. T.



This Indenture made this eleventh day of
October in the year eight hundred and eleven by and between
Escurius Wiblard George Hubbard Thomas Bellon and John
Rector of the one part and Elizabeth Hubbard James Whitehead
Davis Whitehead of the other part Whereas in and by
a certain Marriage Contract entered into by and between the
Escurius Hubbard and Elizabeth Hubbard having date June
the 11-1806 certain negroes to me Lucy Milly Hannah Charlotte
Fancy Anna and with their Stock and Livir in Ward and certain
other property therin described was settled and endowed upon
her the said Elizabeth and certain other property belonging to
Elizabeth same brought into the said marriage Contract to the
said Escurius during his natural life and with reservation to the
Lives of Elizabeth as by said Marriage Contract will appear
and whereas the said Escurius George and Thomas and John
have set up pretensions and claims to said property so settled
upon the said Elizabeth and for the establishment whereof
claim she has petitioned the General Court of the Territory
of Louisiana setting up a Court of Chancery - and whereas
an amicable adjustment hath been made between the
parties and the said Escurius or likely to terminate in a peaceable
way to the satisfaction of all concerned

Now therefore best known that for the Consideration and Considera-
tions aforesaid and for better farrance and to the party of
the second part to the party of the first that they the said
party of the first good that is to say the said Escurius George
Thomas and John for themselves their heirs executors &
administrators do hereby grant bargain Release and give their
to the said Davis Whitehead and James Whitehead in trust
for the use and support etc and benefit and behoof of the
said Elizabeth Hubbard all the right title interest and
claim which they jointly and separately have in or to
the plantation and Stock theron or thereabouts now

granted by the said Elizabeth and Davis and also to four negroes
named Hannah Charlotte Tye White and Malinda to have
and to hold the same property to them and their children
in trust as aforesaid forever

and the said Elizabeth Davis and James for the causes and
considerations aforesaid and also of the sum of one dollar to
them in hand paid do hereby grant bargain release and give
claim to the said George Thomas and John and to their heirs and
assigns for ever all the right title interest and property they
jointly and severally have or claim in and to five negroes
named Sally Harry Lark Matt Brown and the Davis but
so long as he shall reside in the District of Saint Louis and
after his death with deviation to the said George Thomas
and John and their heirs and assigns two negroes named
Doch and Jack the said suit in the General Court is to
be dismissed on the cost of Davis White and James
and the said George Thomas and John for them
to bear their heirs executors and assigns to hold covenant
to and with the said Davis and James son of the said Elizabeth
acting on the behalf of the said Elizabeth that they the said George Thomas
and John shall and will keep the said Elizabeth Davis and
James harmless from all debts of the said Davis Hubbard
contracting before the marriage contract was entered into
by and between Purchaser and Elizabeth and from all costs
and charges prior to the said marriage contract defending
the same so that the property of the said Elizabeth Davis and
James or either of them their heirs executors or administrators
shall not be after answerable for any of said debts nor
their bodies molested therefore and the said George Thomas
and John not to be accountable for any of the said debts
contracted since the said marriage the business being fully
understood between parties

For the true performance of all and singular the covenants
and agreements herein contained the parties aforesaid hereby
bind themselves jointly and severally their heirs executors
and administrators each to the other in the sum of
three Thousand Dollars

In witness whereof the parties aforesaid have caused to be
set our hands and affixed our seals the day and year first
above written

Signed sealed and delivered

In presence of

R. Chapman

John Morrison

James Gilmore

Esther Whiting

George Hubbard

Mary Butler

John Proctor

Elizabeth Hubbard

Favia Whiting

Jas Whiting

Edw

Edw