

Maryland for the State of Maryland To all whom
these presents shall come know ye that on the twentieth
day of October in the year of our Lord Eighteen Hundred
and Eighteen before me Thomas Hall Register of
Wills for Anne Arundel County State of Maryland duly
thereto constituted and appointed according to the
directions of the Act of Assembly in that case made and
provided letters Testamentary of all and singular the
Goods Chattels and Credits which were of Frederick
Grammer late of said County deceased were granted and
committed unto John A Grammer Henry E Mayer and
Horatio Ridout of the County aforesaid they having
first entered into Bonds with sufficient securities for
the due performance thereof and also taken an oath
well and truly to administer the same to exhibit a true
and perfect Inventory of the said Goods and Chattels
and to render a just Account of their administration
when they should be thereto legally required

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto set my
Hand and affixed the seal of my office
this Twenty Eighth day of May in the
Year of our Lord 1828

Thos Hall Reg Wills adz

State of Maryland, Anne Arundel County to wit.

Be it remembered that on this Twenty seventh Day of May Anno Domini One thousand eight hundred and twenty eight, personally appeared before me the Subscriber, One of the Justices of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid, John Weedon, aged Forty Nine Years, and upwards, who being sworn on the Holy Evangelij of Almighty God, ^{saying} that he well remembers seeing British Vessels of War being in the Chesapeake Bay during the late War between Great Britain and the United States - that his DepONENTS dwelling House is situated on the Banks of said ^{Bay} near to Sandy Point, and between the Mouths of the River Severn and the River Magothy - that on or about the Middle of the Month of September, in the Year eighteen hundred and fourteen, this DepONENT between the Break of Day, ^{and sun rise} saw a Batteau with several Negroes on board, who went off to one of the British Vessels; that the long boat of the Vessel met the Batteau, and took the People who were in her along side, and then into the Vessel - In a very few Hours afterwards this DepONENT heard that two Men Slaves, the property of a certain Frederick Grammer, at that time a resident in the same Neighbourhood with this DepONENT, though since deceased, had absconded from the service of their Master; and this DepONENT verily believes that such was the fact; as said Negroes, the names of whom were both James, never afterwards were in the service of said Grammer, or ever seen, or heard of as being in the Neighbourhood; but the universal opinion and belief was that said Negro Slaves had gone off with the British - when the Vessels left the Chesapeake Bay - and this DepONENT himself has no ^{doubt} but that they did so go off - This DepONENT also says that Two Negro Men Slaves absconded on the same Night from the Family of a Mr Honey Durrall, and a Mr Seminoe Durrall as he understood and verily believes, and that the four Negroes went off to the British at the

same time - neither of whom ever returned
again to the Neighbourhood, or to the service
of their owners. That this Depoent does not
recollect that any other Slaves absconded
from the Neighbourhood on or about the
same time that those above mentioned
went away. And further this Depoent
saith not.

sworn to before and
certified by

Gideon White

James Amherst County Court

I hereby certify that Gideon White
gentleman who appears to have taken and signed
the foregoing affidavit at the time of so doing
was of the State of Maryland Justice of the Peace in
and for Amherst County early Commissioner and
Deputy Justice of the Peace of the County of Amherst
and after the year of our Lord one thousand eight
hundred and twenty eight

A. N. 1.

Wm. S. Greenleaf

To the honourable the Board of Commissioners
now sitting, at the City of Washington in the
District of Columbia, to determine on the claims
of Owners of Slaves deported by the British in
the late war - agreeably to the Treaty of Ghent
the Convention on that subject between the
United States and the Kingdom of Great Britain,
and the acts of Congress relative thereto -
The memorial of John A. Grammer, Henry E. Mayer
and Horatio Ridout, Executors of the last will
and testament of Frederick Grammer, late of
Anne Arundel County in the State of Maryland,
deceased, respectfully states and represents
That on or about the 20th of September in the
Year of our Lord One thousand eight hundred
and fourteen, while certain British Vessels
of War were stationed in the Chesapeake Bay,
about six or eight miles distance from the
residence of said Frederick Grammer, Two
young Negro men Slaves, belonging to said
Grammer absconded, and went on board
one of said Vessels - as your Memorialists do
verily believe, as they resided in the neighbourhood
of said Grammer at the time - and as they think
is fully proved by the Affidavit herewith exhibited
marked A. N. 1. One of said Negro men was
named James Steward, and the other named
James Hall. That said Slaves never returned
to the service of their Master - But a few
years afterwards, he received a Letter from
Col. Gilbert C. Puffell, dated Fort Stoddert, 24th of
June 1818, informing him that one of the said
Slaves had deserted from the British and was
then in his Gilbert C. Puffell's possession. The
said Letter is herewith exhibited, with its inclosure
marked B. N. 2. & C. N. 3. also a memorandum
in the hand writing of said Frederick Grammer
marked D. N. 4. and a copy from an advertisement
in the Baltimore Patriot marked E. N. 5. From these
Papers it was ascertained that the Negro man in
Col. Puffell's possession was the one named
James Steward - That said Frederick agreed
to sell said Negro to Col. Puffell, but died
before the purchase money was paid - That
your Memorialists afterwards, as the Executors
of said Grammer, executed a Bill of Sale for

for said Negro to Col. Russell, and received
the price of him through the hands of Captⁿ
John Crowell then acting as agent for Col. Russell
as will appear by said Crowell's letter herewith
exhibited marked F. N. 6. But that for the
Slave named James Hall no compensation or
price whatsoever has ever been received either
by Frederick Grammer in his life time - or by
his Executors since his death, or by any other
person for his or their use.

Your Memorialists consider this to be a case
fairly and fully entitled to indemnification
under the Treaty of Ghent, the Convention and
the Acts of Congress founded thereon - And pray
that your honourable Board will award such
sum unto them for the said Slave, so deported
as before stated, named James Hall, as may
be deemed equitable and just, and accordant
with decisions in similar cases by other Claimants.

It is not for your Memorialists to say what degree
of weight or credit is due to the account
which James Steward gives as to his fellow Slave
James Hall being killed in the attack on Fort
Bougier - such may or may not have been the
case - But even admitting the fact to be as
stated by James Steward - Your Memorialists do
not perceive that such circumstance can
affect the equity, fairness and justice of their
Claim - but, on the contrary, that it is strengthened
thereby - because if he was killed in the service
of the Enemy - there is an impossibility of his
ever being retaken, and restored to his owners.

Your Memorialists will only further remark
that their Claim would have been exhibited
and entered on record long since - but from
an entire misapprehension and misunderstanding
of the Rules and Regulations established by
the honourable the Board of Commissioners
in regard to the kind of Evidence or
proof necessary to substantiate a claim
of this kind - They were under the impression
that it would be required of them to offer
positive evidence that the Slave was taken
away by the British from the territory of the
United States on some day subsequent to
the day on which the Treaty of Ghent was
signed and dated - and, as it was not
in their power to furnish such proof, they

deemed it useless to put in their claim -
However, from noticing the recent debates
and discussions on the subject before Congress
in regard to extending the time of Your Board's
continuing in session, they are induced to hope
and trust, that, late as the hour of their application
is, relief may still be given them.

J. A. Grammer
Henry E. Mayer
Horatio Ridout

State of Maryland, Anne Arundel County, to wit:

Be it remembered that on this twenty seventh day
of May Anno Domini 1828. personally came before
me the Subscriber, one of the Justices of the Peace
in and for the County aforesaid, John A. Grammer
Henry E. Mayer and Horatio Ridout, Executors of the
last will and testament of Frederick Grammer, late of
said County, deceased, and severally made Oath on the
holy evangel of Almighty God that the several matters
and things stated in the aforesaid Memorial as
facts within the knowledge of said Memorialists
are true, and that the others as stated on their
belief, they do verily believe to be true -
Sworn to before

Gideon White

Anne Arundel County

I hereby testify that Gideon
White Gentleman who appears to have taken
and signed the aforesaid affidavit was at the
time of so doing one of the Justices of the Peace
Justices of the Peace in and for Anne Arundel
County

County duty Commission and I am. In Testimony
whereof I have set my name and
affix the seal of said County
County this twenty sixth day of June
in the year of our Lord one thousand
Eight hundred and twenty eight
Wm S. Greenleaf

Fort Stoddart 24th June 1818

Sir

The enclosed letter, which was written for Captain Starman will inform you of your man Tom, alias Jim - He is on one of my plantations in this County and if you will not see him he shall remain subject to your order - He is a valuable negro and I wish to own him - and if you will see him, inform me the price, and if not too high I will remit you a draft on the Secy of War - or Baltimore or New York for the amt. of Tom as he so called himself - He states that another boy called Jim came off with him and that he got killed in the attack on Fort Bowyer at Mobile point - and that he was the last man of the two - The one now in my possession is minutely described in the Baltimore Patriot

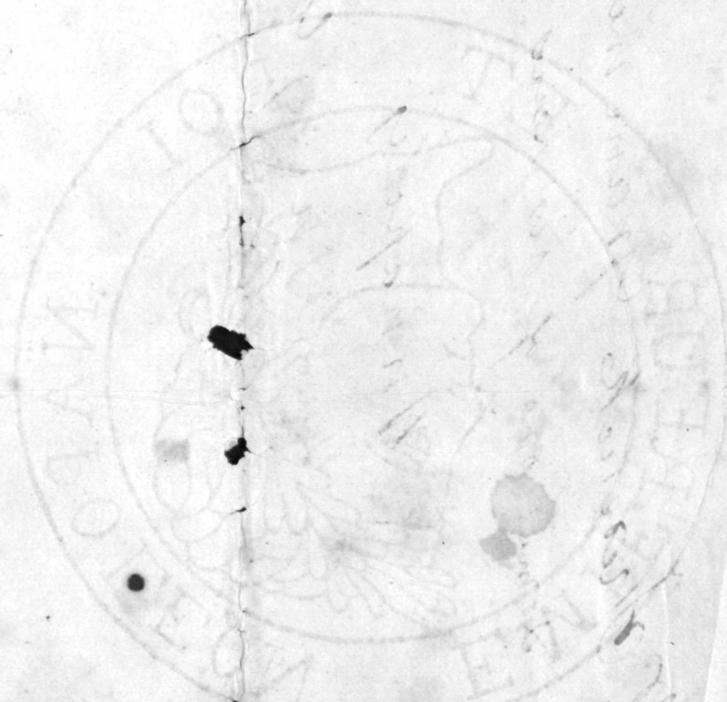
of March or April 1816 - and by referring to
that advertisement you can ascertain whether
of the boys is yet alive - Tom or Jim
now believes that he is mine - indeed I have
so intimidated it to him least he might take
to the woods and our Country affords no joints
to hold him - tho' I believe that his treat-
ment may be severe while with the British
that he will not attempt to go again -

Capt Newman, I have been informed,
has left Maryland and located himself in
the County of Madison in this Territory - I
have therefore to request the favour of
you to answer my interrogatories to him
respecting the persons or reports.
I know no one in or about an

any - but if there are any old officers there
upon application to them they can inform
you who I am - Respectfully

Gilbert C. Rufree

Mr. J. Grammer.



25

Mr Frederick Grammer
or some one of his heirs

Annapolis
Maryland

Rec^d this the 25. July 1878.

B. N. 2.

Mr. C

Mr. M

Mr. W

to send
copy

D. L.

Washington
July 28th 1819

I wrote you some few days since, on the subject of a negro which you have sold to Col. Gilbert C. Russell of the Alabama Territory, the name of the negro is Jim Stewart. I am now ready to pay you the sum of \$550 agreeable to your Contract with Col. Russell, so soon as you produce me a bill of Sale, for the negro. I have your letter to Russell, stating the price of the negro, and your promise to make him the Bill of Sale

I am respectfully
Yours etc
- Mr. C. Rowan

Free
Postage

Mr. Friedrich Grammer
Pleasant Plains

near Annapolis Md.

5.11.06

Deserted

From the British fleet in March last, when
lying at anchor off the Bay of Mobile, a negro
man who calls himself Tom - says he was born
in Baltimore County, that he was on a vessel out of
the Port of Baltimore bound for Europe, which was
captured in 1812, that the papers exhibiting evidence of
of his Freedom were destroyed by his Captors, and he
was made to serve as a human on board of his
Britannic Majesty's ships of war, On examination, the
records of Baltimore County and Tom's statement are
at variance, It is therefore presumed, that he is a
Slave, and was either plundered or deserted from the service
of his owner - if so this therefore is to give notice that
he is on the plantation of a resident in the
Mississippi Territory, where his owner can get him
or a good price for him - The aforesaid Negro
appears to be about 25 years of age, is about 5 feet
10 inches high, has broad shoulders and remarkably
large feet, inclines to be a little knock-kneed, has
small eyes a little squinting, a down look speaks low,
Over

Though fast and very distinctly, and is of a
yellowish complexion

April 8. 1816

Taken from the Balt. Patriot

B. No. 5.

Cut Off near Fort Stoddert A.T.
2^d March 1848

Dear Sir,

You will doubtless recollect the advertisement which ^{you} carried to Baltimore and after searching the records of Baltimore County for Tom, had it inserted in the Patriot or some other paper of that City - After my return to this County in 1846 Tom made no enquiry about his free papers which I was to obtain for him and I was therefore induced to believe that he was a slave - and a few days ago upon telling him what I had done &c. &c. he acknowledged that he was the slave of a Mr. Frederick Hammer or Gran-mer in or near the City of Annapolis - that he was induced to go off by two Jews and went on board the British fleet from which he made his escape in 1815 and came on board of my vessel in which I was returning from D. Island (whether I had been with a flag) to Mobile.

Tom is desirous that I should own him and I have promised him that

I will endeavour to get him -

Presuming that his Master, if alive, or if dead the heirs of his Master, will take the customary price of such a negro I dare to request the favour of you to see him, agree with him on the price, then inform me the amount whereupon I will enclose you for him a draft upon my Agent in New-York or one upon Baltimore which you will suit him with for the sum agreed ~~upon~~ on. Upon giving him this he can then give you a Bill of Sale for Tom which you can send me by the Mail -

In 1816 when Negroes were high I bought such boys as Tom for 500⁰⁰, and I now presume that his owner will not ask more from me than that when he considers that I have paid the fellow for him - However as Tom is here I am willing to give his owner ~~as~~ much as will buy him such a fellow there - This I think is perfectly fair - However

you are my minister and negotiator as you see fit - However or how you ought to have the boy or his value - Tom has married one of my virgins and expresses much anxiety to remain where he is -

Our new Country is filling up rapidly and we shall soon become a State - In the mean time let me tell you that it is vastly overrated abroad - and is far superior to Red River, Atchafalpa, or Opelousas - Some of these three places I shall go if I do not return to the State from where I came. But having been largely engaged in trade since May 1816 I cannot get off before the end of the year 1819. He past no ship out ending the May of that year - Can I get in October next 100 or more negroes in many lands & upon what terms? Will you buy them for me upon an inspection - Paroon the trouble I give you - It may happen that you may have occasion to trouble me. Mrs
Gilbert C. Rufin

of Capt. A.
is not in An
applies, and the
of Martin the
knowing he
wants to
will for his
also - and
if he knows
it not and
the Capt.
and there he
will return
his letter to
Gibbs.

Captain Francis Newman

late of the U. S. Artillery

Annapolis

My dear

C. N. 3.