

Maryland Let The State of Maryland To all whom  
these presents shall come know ye that on the thirteenth  
day of August in the year of our Lord Eighteen hundred  
and twenty two before me Thomas N 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 Henry Duvall  
late of said County deceased was granted and committed  
unto Grafton D Duvall of the County aforesaid he having  
first entered into Bonds with sufficient securities for the  
due performance thereof

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 N Hall Reg Wills aalZ

State of Maryland. Anne Arundel County to wit.

Be it remembered that on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of May, Anno Domini 1828. 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 deposes and saith that during the late war between the United States and Great Britain he resided, and still resides, on his farm near Sandy Point, and between the Mouths of Severn and Magothy Rivers in Anne Arundel County that on or about the Middle of the Month of September in the Year one thousand eight hundred and fourteen, he, this Deponent, saw a Bateau with several Negroes in it going towards one of the British Vessels of War, then lying at anchor in the Chesapeake Bay, a few Miles distant from the House of this Deponent - that the Long Boat or Board of the British Ship met the Bateau, and carried the Negroes along side and on Board the Ship - that took place between Day-Break and Sun-Rise - that in a few Hours afterwards the alarm was given in the neighbourhood that a Negro Man and another Slave the property of the late Henry Dewart, Esq. and Mother of said Henry Dewart, together with two Slaves belonging to the late Mr. Frederick Grammer, had stolen a Bateau and ran away to the British - and this Deponent has no doubt, but vividly doth believe that the Negroes he saw in the Bateau, as above stated, were the respective Slaves of, Henry Dewart, Junion Dewart and Frederick Grammer - that neither of said Slaves were returned, or were seen or heard of in the neighbourhood that this Deponent does not know of any other Negroes who about that <sup>time</sup> ran away - He sincerely believes that the above mentioned Slaves were all and every of them carried away by the British when they left the Chesapeake Bay - and such, too, is the universal opinion of the Neighbourhood - and further this Deponent saith not -

Sworn to before, and  
Certified by

Richard B. Merrick

Anne Arundel County Jc.

I hereby certify that Richard B. Merrick  
Merrick gentleman who appears to have taken and  
signed the foregoing affidavit was at the time of so  
doing one of the State of Maryland's Justices of the  
Peace

present and for Anne Anne County Clerk Commission  
and sworn. In Testimony whereof I have set my  
name and affixed the seal of Anne  
Anne County Court this twenty eighth  
day of May in the year of our Lord one  
thousand eight hundred and twenty  
eight  
Wm Greenleaf

unframed  
and  
L  
has

Clerk of  
To the Hon<sup>ble</sup> the Commissioners acting  
under the Treaty of Ghent, relative  
to Slaves deported by the British  
during the late War.

Washington, D. of Columbia

To the honourable the Commissioners, now in  
session 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 provisions of the Treaty of  
Ghent, the Convention between the United States  
and the Kingdom of Great Britain, and the  
Acts of Congress relative thereto.

The Memorial of Grafton B. Duvall, Executor  
of Henry Duvall, late of Anne Arundel County in  
the State of Maryland, deceased, and also the  
Agent and Attorney in fact of his Grand Mother  
Semima Duvall of said County and State,  
respectfully sheweth, that on or about the Month  
of September in the Year of our Lord One  
thousand eight hundred and fourteen, while  
certain British Ships of War were lying in  
the Chesapeake Bay, a few Miles distant from  
the places of Residence of the said Henry Duvall  
and the said Semima Duvall, Two Negro men  
Slaves absconded from them and went on board  
One of said British Ships - That is to say Henry  
Thomas - - - belonging to said Henry Duvall  
and Henry Boyd - - - belonging to said Semima  
Duvall - as your Memorialist very believes, and  
as he thinks will sufficiently be proved by the  
Depositions herewith exhibited. Your Memorialist  
states that neither of the above Slaves ever returned  
to their respective Owners - nor were they ever seen  
or heard of after the departure of the British  
Ships from the Chesapeake Bay - But as your  
Memorialist sincerely believes they both were carried  
away by the British; And he thinks the Owners  
are fairly and justly entitled to payment for them  
under the Treaty of Ghent, the Convention and the  
Acts of Congress aforesaid. He therefore prays  
your honourable Board to award such sum  
for said Slaves, so deported as aforesaid, as  
may be considered equitable and just, and  
accordant with decisions made <sup>against</sup> other claimants  
in similar cases. Your Memorialist begs leave  
further to state, that a claim for the said Slaves  
would long since have been filed and entered on  
record - but for a misconception of the kind  
of proof or evidence that, it was supposed would be  
required, viz: positive evidence that the Slaves  
were taken away from the Waters, within the  
Jurisdiction of the United States, subsequent to  
the day of the signing of the Treaty of Ghent - which

position evidence it was not in his power to  
procure - and therefore his claim was not rejected  
He however now understands that such evidence  
is not absolutely required - but that if proof is  
made that Slaves went off to the Enemy during  
the war, and were never again seen or  
possessed by their Owners, the presumption is that  
they were carried away in contravention of the  
Treaty - and that consequently payment is to be  
made for them. Under these circumstances your  
Memorialist hopes and trusts that this his application  
for redress will be received, considered and  
have equal regard paid to it, as though it had  
been made at a much earlier period. He will  
only add further that Henry Sewall (the Father  
and Testator of your Memorialist) died leaving a  
widow and large family of children behind  
him, and that Jermina Sewall (his Grandmother  
is a very old and infirm widow, upwards of  
eighty years of age - and that whatever relief  
which may be awarded to them will not be  
bestowed on undeserving objects.

Grafton B. Duwall Executor of the  
Will of Henry Sewall and Agent and Attorney  
in fact for Jermina Sewall

State of Maryland, Anne Arundel County Court.

Be it remembered that on this twenty eighth day  
of May, in the year of our Lord 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, Grafton  
B. Duwall, Executor of the last Will and Testament  
of Henry Sewall late of said County, deceased - and also  
Agent and Attorney in fact for Jermina Sewall,  
and made oath on the holy evangelists of  
Almighty God that the several matters and  
things set forth in the foregoing Memorial  
are true as stated to the best of his knowledge  
and belief.

Sworn to before and  
attested by

Richard W. Merrick

Anne Arundel County

I hereby Certify that Richard W.  
Merrick Grafton who appears to have taken and  
signed the foregoing affidavit was at the time of  
so doing one of the State of Maryland Justices of the

peace in and for Anne Arundel County

In Testimony whereof I have set  
my name and affixed the seal of  
Anne Arundel County Court this  
28<sup>th</sup> day of May 1828

J. Green