

Madam

I have a perfect knowledge that William Handy  
the slave that the British took from you during the late war  
and in the year 1814 was the property of your deceased husband  
at the time, and did not belong to Miel Wise - William had a  
wife and children at Miel Wise's, and all of them were taken by  
the British - It is stated that at the conclusion of the war William  
came in his name to the Commissioners as the property of Miel Wise.  
This is unquestionably an error; because he was absolutely the  
property of James Hopewell deceased, as the claim of Mrs Hopewell  
the Executrix will shew, filed in the department of state. And  
by comparing, Wise's list of slaves lost and claimed, with that  
of Mrs Hopewell, And also with the returns of Captain Hourse  
of the frigate Severn who took away the slave William (which will  
be made to the Commissioners at Washington by the British Go-  
vernment) it will be found that Wise had not a slave  
of the age, description, and name of William Handy - But  
that his young Negro Man was named Shadrach - By this  
examination and comparison of the two claims and the  
returns of the British Government - and with this knowledge  
of facts the error may be corrected - Mrs Hopewell lost but  
one and that was William Handy an older and a stouter Man  
than Shadrach\* - Should this statement be of any service to  
you, you are at liberty to make use of it - I am Madam  
very respectfully

Bloombury  
Sept 27<sup>th</sup> 1823

Mrs Hopewell.

J. R. Plater

District of Columbia  
County of Washington

On this 22. Nov. 1827, came

before me the subscriber a justice of the peace in  
and for said County the Hon. J. R. Plater, and made oath  
in due form of law, to the truth of the above state-  
ment, by him subscribed.

D. A. Hall J. P.

\* Shadrach was the young Man that  
Miel Wise lost - as his proved claim  
will shew -

State of Maryland: Saint Marys County to wit.

On this Twentieth day of July 1821. personally appeared Angelica Hopewell widow of James Hopewell Late of the County aforesaid before me the Subscriber one of the Justices of the Peace in and for said County, and made Oath on the Holy Evangelij of Almighty God that She saw Nigro William the then property of her Late Husband, in the Act of going on board the British Shipping which lay in the Patuxent River in one of their Boats during their invasion in the year 1814.

Sworn before  
J. P.

State of Maryland: Saint Marys County to wit.

On this Twentieth day of July 1821. personally appeared Eleanor Redman before me the Subscriber one of the Justices of the Peace for the County aforesaid, and made Oath on the Holy Evangelij of Almighty God that She saw Nigro William the property of James Hopewell Late of Saint Marys County dec'd in the service of the British in Saint Marys County, and that She spoke to him and he asked her for water to drink,

Sworn before

J. P.

State of Maryland: Saint Marys County to wit.

On this Twentieth day of July 1821. personally appeared John H Jackson and Philip Greenwell, (the former aged forty eight and the latter fifty two years) before me the Subscriber one of the Justices of the Peace for said County and made Oath on the Holy Evangelij of Almighty God that they will well and truly, without partiality or prejudice value and appraise the Nigro William Slave of the Late James Hopewell of the County aforesaid which was taken or conveyed away by the British during their invasion in the year 1814

Sworn before

Nigro William aged 22 years \$450.00  
valued by us the Subscribers

John H Jackson  
Philip Greenwell

J. P.

District of Columbia Washington County To Wit

On this Twenty eighth day of January 1825 Came before me the subscriber a Justice of the Peace for the district and County aforesaid Geo. W. Beisee and makes Oath that he rendered to the department of State the Claim and Vouchers of Mrs Angelica Hopewell of the County of Saint Marys and State of Maryland to a Negro man named William Handy of about Twenty six or seven years of age and that he fully believes said Slave would have sold for the sum of five hundred dollars at the time he was taken away by the British Frigate Severn Capt. Nourse.

Wm Beisee

District of Columbia set

I, William Baer, Clerk of the Circuit Court of the District of Columbia for the County of Washington, hereby certify that Wm Hewitt whose name is signed above, at the time of signing the same and still is a Justice of the Peace in & for said County duly commissioned and sworn. In testimony whereof I here-  
to set my hand & affix the seal of the said Court at the City of Washington this 28<sup>th</sup> of January 1825.

Wm Baer Clerk.

District of Columbia Washington County To Wit  
On this ninth day of October 1823 came before me the  
Subscriber a Justice of the Peace for the District & County  
aforesaid <sup>Geo. W. Biscoe</sup> and makes oath, that he removed to the depart-  
ment of State the Claim & Voucher - of Mrs Angelica  
Hopewell of the County of Saint Marys and State of Maryland  
of a Negro man named William Handy of about twenty  
six or seven years of age, and that he fully believes said  
slave would have sold for the sum of five hundred dollars  
at the time he was taken away by the British frigate  
Swan Captain Nourse.

R. S. Biscoe  
J. Pease

Note. The letter of Judge, John R. Plater, enclosed  
herewith will more fully attest the claim of Mrs  
Angelica Hopewell in her right to the servant named  
William Handy.  
Geo. W. Biscoe

Slaves

Hopewell Angelica by Mrs. Hopewell  
of Hopewell No. 2. St. Mary's Co. Md.

Slave.

Wm Handy 26 - \$500.

See Bailey's List, also at  
Lambert's and Hazard's - see  
British List page 18-41-55  
D. A. State.

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Bishop - Judge  
Plater open