

State of Maryland Saint Marys County Solicit -

On the 26th day of May 1828 personally appeared Sarah Martin the widow of Norman Martin deceased before me the Subscriber a Justice of the peace in and for Saint Marys County State of Maryland and being sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God deposed and saith that Norman Martin her deceased husband had been for several years before and during the year 1814 and for several years thereafter Overseer and Manager of the estate and farm of John Kousby Plater then in possession lying and being in the County and State aforesaid binding on the Potomack River and Britons Bay that her husband Norman Martin has been dead several years (about eight years ago) and that her husband and herself lived on the said farm in the year 1814 and during his residence thereon which was many years before and after the year 1814 - Either in the month of September or October 1814 the British fleet anchored in the Potomack River and some of the ships nearly opposite, and near to the plantation aforesaid some days after the British landed a number of troops & sailors upon the farm and ^{came to the dwelling house and quarters} Upon seeing the boats with the troops approach the ^{throat} of the farm this deponents husband then the overseer and Manager ordered the slaves from the estate but that a young Man named Cornelius Wildman disobeyed orders and eluded her husband and had an interview with some of the officers and Men or troops - She farther deposed that some time after a brig approached the Mouth of Britons Bay with some barges and after firing some guns in the direction of the dwelling of Cornelius Manning (an adjoining farm) the boats landed on a Point of the land and at that time the two Negro Men Cornelius Wildman the property of John Kousby Plater disappeared and was taken off by the Boats together with a Negro Man named Matthew Meeder belonging to Cornelius Manning - The two Men were together on the farm of the said John Plater in the Morning of the same day it being Sunday, the day attended to of the landing of the boats at Cornelius Mannings - The two Negro Men above named were ~~was~~ never seen after or heard of either by this deponent her husband, the family or any of the Neighbours and that the wife of the said Cornelius Wildman always said that her husband had been taken away by the British fleet - Sworn to before me the day and year above written.

Wm. H. Hutton

Maryland Saint Marys County Towns

I hereby certify that Robert H. Stoll

Gentleman before whom the ~~written~~ affidavit of Sarah Martin, appears to have been made and who has thereto signed ~~his~~ his name was at the time of so doing one of the justices of the peace of the State of Maryland in and for Saint Marys County aforesaid duly commissioned and qualified, and that to all his acts as such, full faith and credit is and ought to be given as well in Court of justice as throughout.

In Witness whereof I have set my hand and official seal this 27 day of May 1828

J. B. Carrick
St. Marys County Clk.

State of Maryland Saint Marys County Sheriff

On the 26th day of May 1828 personally appeared Janet A. Bell (the wife of William A. Bell and the daughter of Norman Martin deceased) before me the subscriber a Justice of the Peace in and for the County and State aforesaid and being sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God deposed and ~~deposed~~ that Norman Martin deceased had been for several years before and during the year 1814 and for some years thereafter Overseer and Manager of the estate and farm of John Mousby Plater then in his possession, lying and being in the County and State aforesaid binding on the Potomack River and Britons Bay - That her father had been dead for several years and that she the said Janet lived with her father on the farm in the year 1814 and during the whole time of his residence thereon - That either in the month of September or October in the year 1814, the British fleet anchored in the Potomack River nearly opposite and some of the vessels near to the plantation aforesaid - A few days after, (the exact time the deponent does not recollect) the British landed a number of troops and Sailors upon the farm and came to the dwelling house and quarters - Upon seeing the boats with the troops approach the shore of the farm this deponents father then the Overseer ordered the slaves from the estate; but that a young man named Cornelius Wildman disobeyed orders and eluded and had an interview with some of the troops; he further deposed that some days after one of the vessels approached the mouth of Britons Bay with some barges and after firing some guns in the direction of the dwelling of Cornelius Manning (an adjoining farm) the boats came to the shore of that estate - That at that time the Negro Men Cornelius Wildman the property of John Mousby Plater disappeared and was taken off by the barges or boats together with a Negro Man named Matthew Keeder belonging to Cornelius Manning - Those two Men were together on the farm of the said John Mousby Plater in the morning of that day it being a Sunday, the day alluded to of the landing of the barges or boats at Cornelius Mannings - Those two Negro Men were never seen or heard of after that day by this deponent, her father, the family, or any of the neighbours and that she ~~very~~ believes, the two Men Cornelius Wildman and Matthew were taken by the British - and further that the wife of the said Cornelius Wildman always said that her husband had been taken away by the British fleet - Sworn to before me the day and year above written

Narring J. Moore

State of Maryland St Marys County

On this 23rd day of May 1828 Personally appeared Joseph Mattingly before me the subscriber a Justice of the Peace in and for saint Marys County of the State aforesaid, and made oath on the holy Evangel of almighty God that in the month of September of October in the year 1814 he saw a barge go ashore on Cornelius Manning's Farm and one man went aboard of said barge and a little time after he went aboard, one man went ashore, and two men returned to the barge again and the other went out off the bay and that immediately afterwards two Negroes were missing one belonging to the said Cornelius Manning named Matthew the other belonging to or under the care of John Rausby Plater name not recollectd and to his knowledge the said Negroes never was heard of afterwards and further this deponant saith not.

Sworn before
Manning & Moore.

Mr Mannings slave paper and was known among
the slaves of the family as Mathew Shoehank - and others
called him Mathew Thomas -

Joseph Westlinghs
deposition

Thomas Goughs
deposition -

State of Maryland St Marys County Jc
On this 23^d day of May 1828 Personally appeared Thos
Gough before me the subscriber a Justice of the peace
in and for Saint Marys County of the state aforesaid
and made oath on the holy evangely of almighty god
that in the fall of 1814 he saw some British Barges
in Brittons Bay off against Mr Cornelius Mannings
house and that Mathew a Negro of said Mannings
and a Negro named Cornelius the property of John Proudly
Plater, or under his charge was missing the next day
and to his knowledge never has been heard of since and
that he believed the said Negroes went off with the British
and further this deponent saith not
Sworn before Warring, J Moore

State of Maryland St Marys County Gc -

On this 23rd day of May 1828 Personally appeared Elizabeth
Dellehay before me the subscriber a Justice of peace
in and for Saint Marys^{County} of the state aforesaid and
made oath on the holy evangely of almighty god
that in September or October in the year 1824 the British
came to Mr. Cornelious Mannings Farm in where I live
and the day before the barge landed I spoke to Negro
Matthew the property of said Manning and I believe
he went off ~~the~~ with them as he has not been seen or
heard of since and that a Negro man named Cornelious belong
ing to or under the care of John Rousby Plater was
missing at the same time and went off with Matthew
and has never been heard of since - and further this
deponant sayeth not.

Sworn before Manning F. Moore

Sir
Saint Marys County Maryland
June 30th 1821.

In conformity to the notice from the Department of State to the sufferers in the loss of Negroes during the late war with Great Britain; I have the Honor of inclosing you a statement (of the Numbers, Names, ages, sexes and value of those taken from me. It is accompanied with a voucher called a Certificate from the Commandant himself for such as he had taken supported by my own oath and the testimony of two discreet, well judging sensible Men perfectly disinterested, who were well acquainted with my Negroes and their real value. The same evidence is applied to the Five Men taken at other ~~places~~ by other ships as stated in the affidavits - and not embraced in the certificate of Captain Mourse. I could have multiplied the number of witnesses in evidence of my loss, but where the "proof is fairly chosen two are as good as two dozen" and I have limited them. I have also sworn that the (certificate of the Slaves) sent me by Captain Mourse of the frigate Severn and annexed, to be the true and original paper transmitted to me by that officer. This ^{paper} alone should be conclusive evidence of their being on board the British vessels at the close of the war, particularly as their vessels had never left the American station from their arrival until after the peace and many of them if not all of them in our waters at that period. Consequently consider them within the provisions of the treaty; at least it should be so viewed until proved to the contrary and such proof devolves on them. The situation of my residence being immediately on the waters of the Potomac and opposite to Saint Leonards Creek where the British Ships were at anchor blockading Commodore Barry, and my whole estate within their power and possession, and this river being exclusively in their possession to the close of the war the loss of all my crops added to the great one sustained in Negroes nearly ruined me. - Should I be so fortunate as to be remunerated and paid their value under the treaty it will be adding some comfort in my advanced age. I have the

Honor to be Sir with great respect

Yr^o O^bd^t Serv^t
John Rowsey Plater

Gentlemen

In submitting my claim to the investigation of the board I shall take the liberty of drawing their attention to the accompanied voucher (Captain Joseph Bourse certificate) with the list of my slaves as acknowledged to be on board of the frigate *SEVERN*. I consider this certificate as positive proof of possession, that ship being constantly (within the waters and jurisdiction of the United States) conclusive evidence of that fact - unless rebutted by strong unquestionable proof - No circumstantial evidence can be admitted against it - It is a strong voucher in which great reliance is placed for my whole claim - Every thing favorable to the claims ought to be presumed; we were not the aggressors in the war; the injury was done by the British - and they have stipulated by Treaty to repair it - Ergo the proof furnished by their officer during the existence of hostilities should have the greater weight - Indeed every thing even like circumstances should be presumed to bring me within the provisions of the treaty, and should outweigh every thing but positive proof; Lacking of it, the claim ought to be allowed - Mr Gallatin's Convention is in fact a second Treaty promising for a certain sum, and substituting the United States for the British Government - and being thus substituted can it be possible after seeing at Ghent for all our losses on a magnanimous principle, she would now abandon her object and avail herself of technical constructions of the ^{in the treaty article 4} treaty, ^{and sups of evidence} to defeat the very object she had in view when strenuously contending in negotiation for her citizens rights - It cannot be - because too great a sacrifice of principle to suppose it - And this impression is strengthened by the fact, which a simple calculation will show, that if interest on claims is not allowed (and in the treaty there is not one word to be found as to interest) there is money ~~enough~~ enough to pay nearly all particularly that class of property the Negroes - Captain Bourse's certificate I hope will be considered as conclusive evidence of my negroes being on board their vessels at the close of the war - as that vessel never left the American station until after the affair at New Orleans and the peace which ensued.

Should it be determined that my claim in toto is not embraced under the provisions of the Treaty, I must beg leave to draw the attention of the board to certain names of mine which I have taken to be on the Halifax list and document No. 1. page 12 & 13. by name which I may be allowed for - They are subjoined as follows -

- * Stephen Coursey. Halifax list page 77. wife & 3 children not named
Susana Coursey. the wife
Matthew Coursey & children } see definitive list - title John R. Plater.
Peggy Coursey. children } Halifax list 5
- ✓ John Seal 4 - Halifax list page 97. wife & two children - 80
James - - - - - 80 - 80 - 49 frigate Ireland
Prince - - - - - Document No. 1 page 13. page 157 Dragon - 74
Teena - - - - - Document No. 1. page 12 - 184 - Dragon - 74
- ✓ Jesse Wood - Halifax list. page 101 - and 4 children -

John Seal's wife and two children are not mentioned, but by name in page 97. but may be seen by referring to Mr. Plater's list from the department of state -

Also Stephen Coursey, his wife & three children are not named in the mentioned in the British list page 77. but may be seen by referring to definitive list title Mr. Plater -

The above statement is respectfully submitted to the consideration of the board of Commissioners -

Nov 25th 1827

J. R. Plater

* In the Halifax list he is stated to be named Stepy - which was a common vulgar abridgement in use among the servants - thus I presume it is the same slave -

John R. Plater also puts in his claim for 15. Hayshead of Tobago deported by the British force and refers, for evidence of the deportation to his own deposition and that of John Stone; all of which are submitted.

~~J. R. Plater~~

A list containing the number, value, age and sex of the Negroes seduced and taken away from the property and charge of John Mosley Plater, by the commanders of the British fleet lying in the Patuxent river, Maryland, in the months of June July and September 1814 during the late war with Great Britain -

Men and Boys	ages	value	Women and children	age	value
Stephen Courcy	137	\$1.00	Susannah Courcy	40	\$300
Abraham Wood	42	350	Maria Seale	44	300
Zepe Wood	39	500	Lacey Hammer	20	350
Crawley Young	18	100	Sophia Seale	15	375
John Young	14	50	Maria Seale	17	375
Daniel Young	12	100	Franky Seale	20	375
Henry Young	13	100	Maria Wood	10	250
James Thomas	40	150	Henney Williams	50	200
John Seale	50	150	Manf Young (Molly)	35	350
John Seale Junr	17	150	Catharine Young	20	375
William Hammer	12	350	Elizabeth Hammer	10	200
Isaac Hammer	9	250	Percy Mellett (a good look)	46	450
Mathew Courcy	11	150	Lorisa Thomas	1	50
James	6	225	Mary Hammer	1	50
Benjamin Seale	5	210	Patty Seale	1	40
Francis Hammer	3	210	Peggy Seale	3	200
Prince Young	60	100	Ester Seale	4	150
Peter Campbell	55	160	Peggy Courcy	14	50
Lewis Munroe, a house servant	26	600	May Ann Young	9	150
Gerard Munroe	14	50	Grace Munroe (a cook)	27	400
Richard Munroe	5	225	Ester Munroe	7	150
Lewis Munroe	3	150	Kitty Munroe	2	100
Twenty in Number		\$7400	Twenty two in Number		\$250

In addition to the above list of 44 (for which Captain Nourse of the British frigate ship the Severn gave a certificate annexed of their being on board his ship dated 27th July 1814 and being with arms). The following Negro Men were taken and carried away by Captain Brown of the Frigate Loire in the month of June 1814 then lying in the Patuxent river

State of Maryland at the Mouth of Saint Leonards Creek -

Men	age	value
Peregrine Young	20	\$700 a most valuable servant.
Pomatius Seale	19	500 a black smith.
James Bowie	20	600.
Joseph Wood	22	550.
Cornelius	25	550 this list was taken by Admiral Cockburns fleet which was with arms in the month of Sept or October 1814
Twenty two in Number		\$3270

State of Maryland Saint Marys County.

Be it remembered that on this Twenty third day of June Eighteen Hundred and Twenty one personally appears before me the subscriber a Justice of the Peace of said County John Mosley Plater of the County and State aforesaid and made oath to the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God deposing and saying that the above lists and schedule of valuation contains the numbers, ages, sexes and value of the Negroes that were taken from him during the war by the British commanders at the respective periods as by the list of Captain Joseph Nourse of the frigate Severn herewith annexed will in part appear and fully shew. And the deponent further saith, that when the expedition from the frigate Loire landed at his house on the 14 of June 1814 under the command of Commodore Barry and Captain Brown he saw and spoke to the following Negroes of his then in the ranks, wit Peregrine Young, Pomatius Seale, James Bowie and Joseph Wood. And that to the best of his knowledge and judgement the valuation annexed to their respective names in the two lists above stated is true and just. And that each Negro was with the sum at which he is appraised and valued. And he further deposes that the certificate and note signed Joseph Nourse Captain annexed to this paper of his taking on board of his ship the Negroes the property of this deponent are the original papers sent him by Captain Joseph Nourse. And that the names and that the ages and sexes are truly stated in the said certificate; But in some instances the ages are not correctly stated. And that including the four on board of the frigate Loire and the forty four on board the Severn and Cornelius on board of Admiral Cockburns fleet which were in the Potomac river make a total of Forty Nine taken away - Sworn to before me the day and year above written

J. Davis

These are to certify that the following Black people voluntarily came on board His Majesty's ship Severn under my command from Col. John Plater in the Patuxent river between the 22nd & 25th July 1814.

Men & Boys	ages	Women & children	ages
Stephen Courcy	age 40	Josannah Courcy	age 40
Abraham Wood	12	Maria Seale	50
Zepe Wood	40	Cabby Hammer	30
Crawley Young	18	Maria Seale	17
John Young	14	Lophy Seale	14
Dan Young	12	Franky Seale	22
Henry Young	13	Maria Wood	10
Lat. Thomas	50	Henny Williams	50
John Seale	50	Mary Young	35
John Seale	17	Catharine Young	20
Mr Hammer	12	Eliz th Herman	18
Isaac Hammer	9	Finey Merritt	50
Math ^w Courcy	8	Louisa Thomas	2
James Courcy	6	Mary Hammer	1
Benj ⁱ Seale	5	Patty Seale	1
Frans ⁱ Hammer	3	Peggy Seale	8
Prince Young	60	Ester Courcy	4
Peter Campbell	60	Peggy Courcy	1/4
Louis Munroe	30	Mary Ann Young	9
Gerard Munroe	13	Grace Munroe	30
Rich ^d . Munroe	5	Ester Munroe	7
Louis Munroe	3	Kitty Munroe	1/2
Twenty two in Number		Twenty two in Number	

Given under my hand on board His Majesty's ship Severn Patuxent river, the 27th July 1814.

Captain.

Captain Nourse presents

John Mosley Plater
 being to the said Col. Plater
 the Patuxent river in June
 of these contained in list
 of his judgement and that
 and ages and do cording
 posithe the name each in
 to this affidavit
 one the day and year above

J. Davis

