

Bay-side Talbot County Maryland April 19<sup>th</sup> 1828

Dear Sir) I have been lately inform'd ~~that~~ that the claimants  
under the the treaty of Ghent, for property taken by the  
British During the late war, with that power, are Making  
Application, and receiving pay, for property taken from them at  
that period, and whereas my Deceased husband (Francis Wrightson)  
with whom you were well acquainted) had taken from his  
Service, a valuable negro man, by the enemy at that time, and  
As all the necessary vouchers were forwarded on by him, to sub-  
stantiate his claim to said Negro, during his (Mr Wrightson's)  
Life time, I have been told, that there is nothing needfull for me  
to do, as the administratrix of my deceased Husband, whereby  
to obtain the money for said Negro but to make application  
to the proper authorities at Washington, the object therefore of  
this communication to you Sir, is to Employ you, (if you will  
be so good as to attend to it for me) to call on the authorities ap-  
pointed to make payments, to applicants in like cases, or to get  
Some person who may be suitable, to attend to it for you, and would  
thank you to receive the money for me when paid for doing which  
I intend this to authorize you, your compliance with the  
above Requests will very much oblige me with

Respect Mary Ann Wrightson

John Leeds Clerk Esq<sup>r</sup>  
Washington City

In virtue of the within power in me vested. I hereby authorizes  
Wm Brent to act as the agent of the Claimant in this case.

Given under my hand at the City of Washington, this  
30<sup>th</sup> day of April 1828.

John Lewis Kerr

Mrs Mary  
Wrightson,  
near  
St. Michaels  
Talbot County  
S. Shore  
Maryland.

J. M. Michaux  
20 April

Washington

John Lewis Kerr Esq

State of Maryland } Be it remembered, that on this Nineteenth  
Tallot County to wit } day of May - in the Year of our Lord, Eighteen  
hundred and twenty one, at the County of Francis Wrightson of the  
County of Farmor, a Native Citizen of the State of Maryland & of the  
United States, personally appeared before me Thomas Kemp  
one of the State of Maryland's Justices of the Peace, in & for Tallot County  
of & duly commissioned, sworn and qualified, and made Oath on the  
Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, that during the late War between  
the United States of America and His Britannic Majesty, his Negro  
man Slave, named "Daniel", alias "Daniel Wright", absented himself  
from the Service of him the said Francis Wrightson, and went, as he  
believes, on or about the fiftieth day of August, in the Year Eighteen  
hundred and thirteen, on Board of one of the British Vessels of War  
then in the Chesapeake Bay & not far from the Farm of Residence of  
the said Francis Wrightson; he further saith, that the Enemy  
landed on or about the 26<sup>th</sup> day of August, in the Year 1813 and took  
him and several of his Neighbours Prisoners and carried them on  
Board of Admiral Warren's Ship, called, as he believes, "The Domingo"  
and kept them as prisoners until the next Evening. - He further  
says, that He saw his Negro man, Daniel, in the Evening of the  
26<sup>th</sup> day of August 1813, among the British officers and Soldiers, &  
again the next day, on Board of the Admiral's Ship aforesaid,  
that Daniel offered to talk with him, on board of the Ship, but he  
Francis Wrightson would not permit him to speak to him.

He further saith, that the said Negro man being thus in the  
possession of the British officers was retained by them and was  
never restored to him the said Wrightson & that no Satisfaction was  
ever made to him, by the British officers or any other persons for  
the said Negro Slave, and that he truly believes the said Negro  
was carried away by the British and disposed of by them, in some  
way unknown to him the said Wrightson - He further saith, that

In W. Pinkney of 4 June 1821.

Francis

of

Francis Wrightson, Farmer - Tallot Co. Md.  
19 May 1821.

Slave Daniel - 38 - \$350

the said Negro man Slave named Daniel was about thirty eight years of age, when he lost him as a<sup>fi</sup> and he conceives the said Daniel at that time was worth at least Three hundred & fifty Dollars <sup>as he was a good Lawyer and rough Carpenter</sup> current money of the United States, In Witness whereof I have caused the said Francis Wrightson to subscribe his name hereto, and also have <sup>myself</sup> attested & subscribed the same, the day and Year further in before mentioned -

sworn to & subscribed by Francis Wrightson a<sup>fi</sup> before me, the subscriber, as a Justice of the Peace a<sup>fi</sup>; this Nineteenth day of May 1821.

Francis Wrightson

State of Maryland }  
Talbot County to wit } on the nineteenth day of May in the year of our Lord, Eighteen hundred and twenty one, at the County a<sup>fi</sup>;  
Thomas Bridges & James Wrightson of the same County, personally appeared before me Thomas Kemp one of the State of Maryland's Justices of the Peace, in and for the County a<sup>fi</sup>; duly commissioned and qualified and made Oath respectively, on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, that they are well acquainted with the a<sup>fi</sup>; Francis Wrightson & have been for thirty eight years and upwards, and that they well recollect his Negro man Slave named Daniel, otherwise called by himself "Daniel Wright", that the said Daniel ran away as they well recollect from his master Francis Wrightson, about the time the British Vessels of war were in the Chesapeake Bay and the waters thereof, in August 1813; they further depose that they saw "Daniel", after he had absconded himself as a<sup>fi</sup> from his master, among the British officers and Soldiers, conducting them, (after they had landed on the twenty sixth day of August, in the year 1813) through the neighbourhood of the said Francis Wrightson, and that several Vessels were burnt and destroyed by the British officers & Soldiers

in the Neighbourhood, as they believe, from the information which they obtained from the said Daniel - They further depose and declare that they believe the said Daniel was carried off by the British & never restored to the said Francis Wrightson, that they believe the said Daniel was about thirty Eight Years of age, when Francis Wrightson lost him as a<sup>fi</sup> and that his Value at that time was Three Hundred & fifty Dollars, lawful money of the United States; they further depose and say, that they have always understood & believe verily that the said "Daniel" was the lawful Slave of the said Francis Wrightson. In Witness whereof, I have caused the said Deponents to subscribe their names hereto, and I have attested the same, and also subscribed my own name to the said Attestation, this Nineteenth day of May Anno Domini Eighteen hundred and twenty one (1821) his.

sworn to & subscribed before me, the subscriber as a Justice of the Peace as a<sup>fi</sup>; the day & year last a<sup>fi</sup>;

Thomas Kemp

Thomas Bridges  
Mark  
James Wrightson

State of Maryland }  
Talbot County, to wit } I hereby Certify that Thomas Kemp, Esq<sup>r</sup>, before whom the within and foregoing Depositions appear to have been made, and by whom the Certificate thereof appears to have been subscribed, was at the time of his so doing, and still is, one of the State of Maryland's Justices of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid duly Commissioned and sworn -

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and the public Seal of my office affixed this 22<sup>d</sup> day of May Anno Domini 1821.

Jacob Rockerman Clerk of Talbot County Court

The Claim of Francis Wightson is submitted  
on the Depositions of Thomas Bridges & James Wightson

The Negro Man Daniel Wright is not found  
on the British Documents, unless it is in page 23.  
of the printed list. there we find "D. Wright" as  
D. is not a Christian name, I presume it is intended  
as the initial of his name & must therefore  
suppose the Negro gave in his name in  
writing. Daniel is represented to have been  
a very smart Negro, it is therefore more than  
probable it was an exhibition of talent by  
him & that they mistook his D for ~~D~~ D. &  
so entered it on the list.

If the Com.<sup>rs</sup> should think it just that  
he should be paid, I ask them to award in  
the name of Mrs Mary Ann Wightson the  
Adm.<sup>r</sup> of Francis Wightson Dec.<sup>r</sup> - I have sent  
to her for the evidence of her being the  
Adm.<sup>r</sup> and expect it in a few days  
when I shall file it with these  
papers.

W. Brent for Claim.

by Jas. A. Smith  
1<sup>st</sup> May 1828





The Honorable

Warren Pinkney  
Esq

Thos Quincy Adams

Secretary of State to the United States

City Washington  
D.C.

