

To the Honourable The Judges of Prince  
George County Court.

The petition of Thomas  
Baldwin of Prince George County respect-  
fully represents unto your Honors  
that he has owned and seen in the  
possession of <sup>for seven years</sup> by a Valiant and good little  
Negro boy John Cogg a slave for  
~~the term of~~ <sup>until he is</sup> eighteen years of age:  
that said boy is now about three  
years of age. that said boy is in  
the frequent & repeated habit of  
leaving the employment of your  
petitioner and running away and has  
already subjected your petitioner  
to considerable outlays in money  
time & trouble in recovering the  
possession and services of said  
boy: and that your petitioner may  
be secure in his just rights he  
most respectfully prays your Honors  
to pass an order extending the time  
of service of said boy John Cogg &  
that your petitioner may be allowed  
and authorised to sell him either in  
or out of the limits of the State of  
Maryland — & he will ever pray  
Thos Baldwin