

~~To the Honorable~~ Roger B Taney  
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the  
United States ~~and Judge of the Circuit  
Court of the District of Maryland~~  
~~for the District of Maryland~~

A petition of John W. Brown  
of Baltimore County and State aforesaid  
respectfully shews that being at home  
in his own domicile he was about  
the hour of 2 o'clock <sup>of the 25th of May 1861</sup> AM, arrived  
from his bed by an armed force  
pretending to act under military  
orders from some person or persons  
petitioner unknown - That he  
was by said armed force deprived  
of his liberty by being taken into  
custody, and removed from his  
said home to Fort McHenry <sup>near to</sup>  
the City of Baltimore and <sup>in the</sup> District  
aforesaid; and where your petitioner  
now is in close custody.

That he has been so imprisoned  
without any process or color of law  
whatsoever, and that no such  
is pretended by those who are  
thus detaining him, and that no  
warrant from any Court magistrate  
or other person having legal  
authority to issue the same exists  
to justify such arrest, but to the  
contrary the same, as above is  
stated, hath been done without  
color of law and in violation of



the Constitution and Laws of the  
United States ~~and the~~  
~~of~~ of which he is a citizen  
that since his arrest he has  
been informed that by some order  
purporting to come from one  
General ~~Stinson~~ of St. Louis  
this petitioner unknown disclosing  
the arrest of the Captain of some  
Company in Ballwin County  
of which Company this petitioner  
never was and is not Captain  
was the pretended ground of  
his arrest and is the sole ground  
as he believes on which he is now  
detained

That the person now  
so detaining him and holding  
him at said Fort is Bryan  
General George Cadwalader the  
Military Commander of said  
post purporting to act in the presence and  
by color of the authority of the United States.  
This petitioner therefore  
prays that the writ of Habeas  
Corpus may please be directed  
to the said George Cadwalader  
commanding him to produce  
this petitioner before your Judge  
as aforesaid in the cause, of any  
further arrest and detention, to be  
and that this petitioner be discharged  
and restored to liberty, and as  
in duty  
John W. Brownman  
Fort Mifflin 25<sup>th</sup> March 1861.

United States of America.

District of Maryland Court  
Before the subscriber, a commissioner  
appointed by the Circuit Court of the United States  
in and for the District Circuit and District  
of Maryland to take affidavits &c.  
personally appeared this 25<sup>th</sup> day of May  
A.D. 1861. George W. Williams of the City of  
Baltimore and District aforesaid, and  
made oath on the Holy Evangel of Almighty  
God that the matters and facts stated in  
the foregoing petition are true to the best  
of his knowledge, information and belief  
and that the said petition was signed in his  
presence by the said petitioner, and never  
have been known to be signed by him,  
but that he was at the time and still is  
in close custody at Fort Mifflin, and all  
access to him denied except to his counsel  
and his brother in law; this deposition  
being one of the said couple. —

Sworn to before me

This 25 day of May A.D. 1861.

John Hanan

Notary Public



United States of America District of Maryland Court  
Before the subscriber, a commissioner appointed by the Circuit Court  
of the United States in and for the District Circuit and District of  
Maryland to take affidavits &c. personally appeared this  
26<sup>th</sup> day of May A.D. 1861 George W. Williams of the City of Baltimore  
and District aforesaid, and made oath on the Holy Evangel of Almighty  
God that on this 25<sup>th</sup> day of May he was at Fort  
Mifflin in the preceding affidavit mentioned, and obtained  
an interview with General George Cadwalader then and there  
in command, and deponent as one of the couple of said  
John W. Morgan in the foregoing petition named and at  
his request, and declaring himself to be such couple &c.  
requested and demanded that he might be permitted to  
see the written papers, and to be permitted to make

