

## PETITION.

To the Commissioners under the act of Congress approved the 16th of April, 1862, entitled "An act for the release of certain persons held to service or labor in the District of Columbia."

Your Petitioner, Clark Mills of Washington County D.C. by this his petition in writing, represents and states, that he is a person loyal to the United States, who, at the time of the passage of the said act of Congress, held a claim to service or labor against

six male and five female

persons of African descent of the names of Lettie Howard and her children Tilly, Tom, Elick, Jackson, George and Emily; - Levi Thomas, Rachel Thomas, Ann Ross, and Philip Reid,

for and during the life of said eleven persons,

and that by said act of Congress said eleven persons

were discharged and freed of and from all claim of your petitioner to such service or labor; that at the time of said discharge said

eleven persons

were of the ages of

and of the personal description following: <sup>(1)</sup> viz: Lettie Howard, 33 years old, color black; short and thick set - healthy; - her six children, Tilly, 10 years, Tom, 8 years, - Elick, 6 1/2 years, - Jackson, 5 years, - George, 3 years, - and Emily, 3 months old, all black color, sound and healthy; - Levi Thomas, 59 years old, black color, over six feet high, a large leg, rather stiff, but sound, and in good health; - Rachel Thomas, his wife, 49 years old, mulatto color, healthy, very large, weighs about 200 pounds; - Ann Ross, 48 years, mulatto color, about five feet seven inches high, rather slim build, and in good health; - and Philip Reid, aged 42 years, mulatto color, short in stature, in good health, not prepossessing in appearance, but smart in mind, a good workman in a foundry, and has been employed in that capacity by the Government, at one dollar and twenty five cents per day.

Your Petitioner is not aware that any of above possess any moral, mental, or bodily infirmities that impair their value; and does not believe that any such exist; except that mentioned in regard to the stiff leg of Levi Thomas.

That your petitioner acquired his claim to the aforesaid service or labor of said eleven persons, \_\_\_\_\_ in manner following: <sup>(2)</sup> Lettie Howard and her child Tilly were purchased from Peter Havenner some 8 or 9 years <sup>ago</sup> for eight hundred dollars, and her five other children were born since. — Levi Thomas and his wife Rachel, he purchased in Baltimore about the same time, and paid nine hundred and fifty dollars for them: — Ann Ross he acquired by his wife: — and Philip Reid he purchased in Charleston, S. C. many years ago when he was quite a youth. He bought him because of his evident talent for the foundry business in which your Petitioner was engaged, and paid twelve hundred dollars for him. — His papers having been burnt some years ago, he has no record evidence of his title.

That your petitioner's claim to the service or labor of said eleven persons was, at the time of said discharge therefrom, of the value of (see below) dollars \_\_\_\_\_ in money. <sup>(3)</sup> Lettie Howard, — seven hundred dollars, . . . . \$700.00

(See preceding page.)

<u>Tilly Howard</u> ,	five hundred dollars, . . . .	500.00
<u>Tom Howard</u> ,	five hundred dollars, . . . .	500.00
<u>Elick Howard</u> ,	four hundred dollars, . . . .	400.00
<u>Jackson Howard</u> ,	two hundred & fifty dollars, . . . .	250.00
<u>George Howard</u> ,	one hundred & fifty dollars, . . . .	150.00
<u>Emily Howard</u> ,	fifty dollars, . . . .	50.00
<u>Levi Thomas</u> ,	three hundred dollars, . . . .	300.00
<u>Rachel Thomas</u> ,	four hundred dollars, . . . .	400.00
<u>Ann Ross</u> ,	five hundred dollars (\$500.), . . . .	500.00
<u>Philip Reid</u> ,	fifteen hundred dollars, . . . .	1,500.00
		<u>\$5,250.00</u>

Your petitioner hereby declares that he bears true and faithful allegiance to the Government of the United States, and that he has not borne arms against the United States in the present rebellion, nor in any way given aid or comfort thereto.

And your petitioner further states and alleges, that he has not brought said eleven persons \_\_\_\_\_ into the District of Columbia since the passage of said act of Congress; and that, at the time of the passage thereof, said eleven persons were ~~was~~ held to service or labor therein under and by virtue of your petitioner's claim to such service or labor.

Your petitioner further states and alleges, that his said claim to the service or labor of said eleven persons, \_\_\_\_\_ does not originate in or by virtue of any transfer heretofore made by any person who has in any manner aided or sustained the present rebellion against the Government of the United States.

And your petitioner prays the said Commissioners to investigate and determine the validity of his said claim to the service or labor of said eleven persons \_\_\_\_\_ herein above set forth; and if the same be found to be valid, that they appraise and apportion the value of said claim in money, and report the same to the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States, in conformity to the provisions of said act of Congress.

(Signed by)

Clark Mills

NOTE (1).—Here describe the person, so as to identify him or her; and if there be more than one slave, describe each one separately.  
 NOTE (2).—Here state how the claim was acquired, when, from whom, and for what price or consideration; and, if held under any written evidence of title, make exhibit thereof, or refer to the public record where the same may be found.

NOTE (3).—Here state such facts, if any there be, touching the value of the petitioner's claim to the service or labor of the person, as may enhance the same, and also such facts, if any, touching the moral, mental, and bodily infirmities or defects of said person, as impair the value of the petitioner's claim to such service or labor, and conclude such statement with an averment that the petitioner knows of no other infirmities or defects of said person which impair the value of petitioner's claim to such service or labor, and that he believes none other to exist. If the petitioner specify no such infirmity or defect, then his statement touching the value of his claim should conclude with an averment that he has no knowledge of any such infirmity or defect.

[Form of the Oath for the Verification of the Petition.]

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA,

Washington County, ss.

I, Clark Mills being duly sworn,

do depose and say, that all the several matters and things which are set forth and stated in the foregoing petition, as of my own knowledge, are true in substance and in fact; and that all the several other matters and things therein set forth and stated, as from the information of others, I believe to be true in substance and in fact.

(Signed by)

Clark Mills

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 18<sup>th</sup> day of June,

A. D. 1862.

(Signed by)

Edm. F. Brown,  
#  
Notary Public.  
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Refer to Genl. Wm. Hickoy &  
Allen Dodge, his  
neighbors, in the County.  
Dr. Wm. H. Barron,  
Genl. Land Office.

Sales June 24 1862

Reinold Wash. Co. D. C.  
North East of Capital.

Clark Mills -  
Claims 11 Slaves -

Clark Mills -