

To the Hon. the Judge of the Circuit Court of St Louis County.

The petition of Fica, a woman of color aged about nineteen years, respectfully shows to your honor, that she was born in the state of North Carolina, the slave of Mrs Isabella Walker, by whom she was taken from that state to the State of Mississippi, where she resided with the said Isabella Walker until her death which occurred in De Soto County in Mississippi about four years ago :- petitioner has been informed and believes that the said Isabella Walker by her last will and testament ordered that your petitioner when she should arrive at the age of twenty one should be entitled to her freedom - petitioner further states that after the death of Mrs Isabella Walker she was the property claimed by Felix Walker son of Isabella Walker, who brought her from the state of Mississippi in the month of March eighteen hundred and forty one and brought this petitioner to the state of Illinois, and left her at the house of Chesley Evans in St Clair County Illinois, who is a relation of this petitioner - that after remaining in the County of St Clair in the state of Illinois about two weeks the said Walker and the said Chesley Evans moved from the County of St Clair to the County of Jackson in the state of Illinois and took your petitioner with them, where she remained with the said Walker about four months - the said Walker declaring ~~that she was his property~~ that he intended giving her freedom papers - that while your petitioner was so ~~the said Walker~~ ^{the said Walker} ~~there~~ ^{he} ~~held her to service and labor as his slave.~~ ^{residing in the said County of Jackson, one Benjamin Dill} the son in law of said Felix Walker came to the said County of Jackson and requested your petitioner to go with him to St Louis in the state of Missouri to attend upon his wife, who was then sick, which your petitioner consented to do, as she felt and continues to feel a strong affection for the wife of said Dill, daughter of said Felix Walker, with whom she was reared from early infancy. That afterwards the said Felix Walker returned to the state of Mississippi, where he died sometime during the last fall; that sometime in the month of October, the said Dill & his wife left the City of St Louis and returned to the state of Mississippi, leaving your petitioner at the house of John H Spain in the City of St Louis in the state of Missouri - That

under some pretence of right, the said Span sold your
petitioner to one Lyman B Shaw, as she has been
informed and believes, who on the twenty fifth day of
April eighteen hundred and forty two sold your
petitioner to one Samuel Hobart, who now has her
in his ~~possession~~ ^{in the City of St Louis} at the City of St Louis, confined in
the ~~prison~~ ^{in the prison in the City of St Louis} in said City of St Louis. Your petitioner
further states that the said Samuel Hobart intends to
take your petitioner out of the State of Missouri and
down the Mississippi river with the design of holding
her as a slave, by the first boat descending said river.
Under these state of facts your petitioner is informed and
believes that she is entitled to her freedom, and she
humbly begs your honor for leave to sue as a poor person
for her freedom, in the name of Charles Evans as her next
friend against said Samuel Hobart, and that your honor
order your petitioner to be brought up before your honor
by warrant as is provided for by law, and that your
honor will make such further orders herein as the
law provides and such as the proper protection of
your petitioner's rights may require. And she will pray.

Witness my hand and seal
this 26th day of April 1842
at St Louis
Sophia Evans
her Atty

State of Missouri
St Louis County

Sophia Evans being duly sworn
says that the matters and things set forth in the foregoing
petition of Vica, a woman of color, are true

Sworn to & submitted

the 26 April 1842

by Sophia Evans

before me at St Louis

County Missouri

Ryan Mullanphy

Judge of the Eighth Judi-

cial Circuit of the

State of Missouri

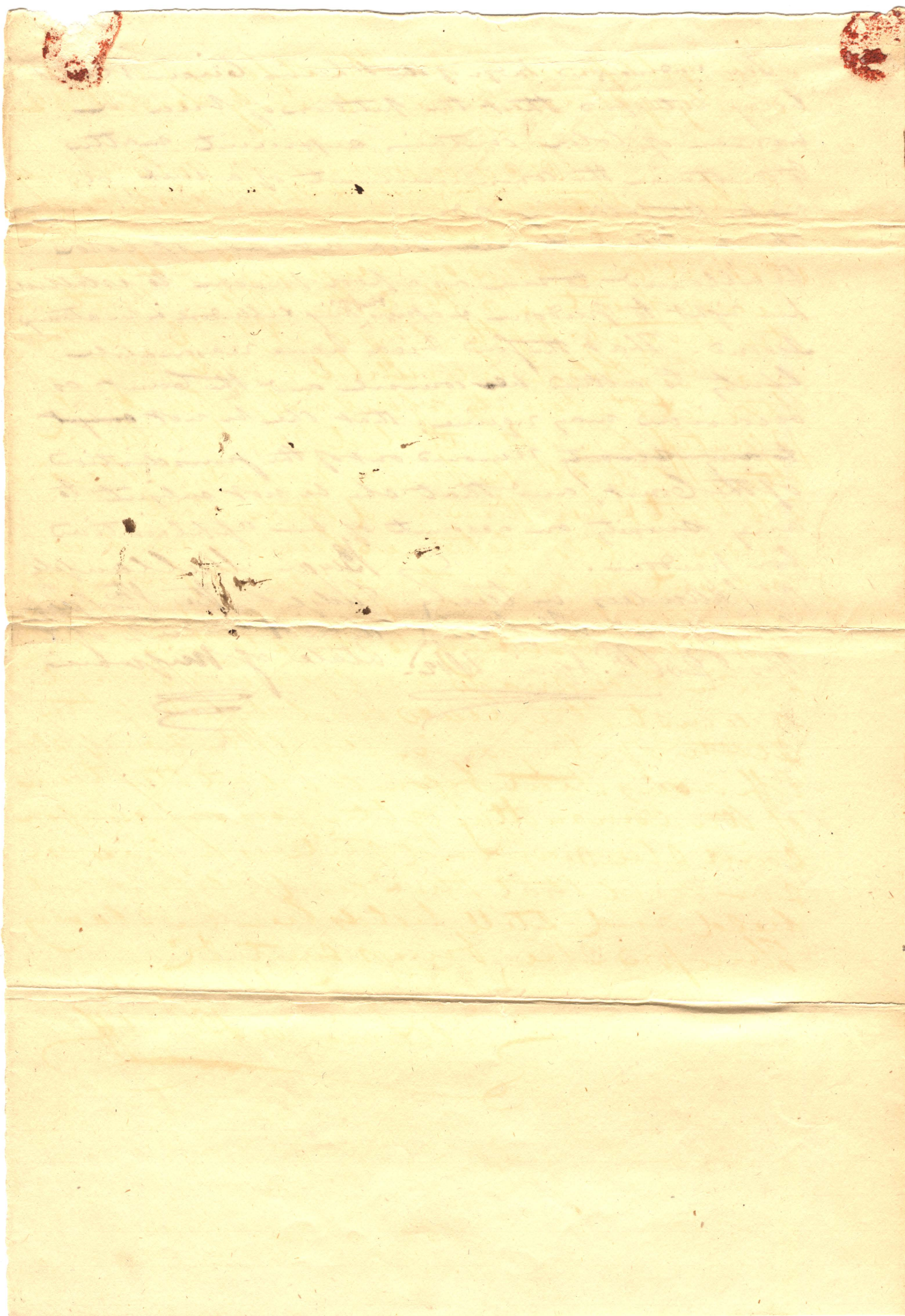
Sophia ^{her} Evans
mark

The undersigned Judge of the St Louis Circuit Court
being satisfied that the petitions of Vica a
woman of color contain sufficient matter
to authorize the commencement of a suit, do
make the following orders.

First That the said Vica a woman of color
be allowed to sue as a poor person to establish
her right to freedom & ^{make} ~~applied~~ ^{making} ~~her~~ ^{her} attorney

Second. That the said Vica have reasonable
liberty to attend her counsel and the Court, as
occasions may require; that she be not ~~subject~~
~~to any security~~ removed out of the jurisdiction
of the Court, and that she be not subject to
any security on account of her application
for freedom.

At Chambers in the } Bryan Mulcaughy
Court of St Louis } Judge of the St Louis
this 26th April 1842. } Circuit Court of the
State of Missouri



State of Missouri } In the at foris Circuit
County of St Louis } Court July Term 1862

View a woman of colour, who
by her attorneys ^{and by her next friend} King & Murdock ^{of the County of St Louis} com-
plains of ~~Samuel Robert~~ alias Samuel
Robert of a plea of trespass & false im-
prisonment. For that the defendant on
the twenty fifth day of April in the
year Eighteen hundred and sixty-
two, at the county aforesaid upon said
plaintiff an assault did make & then &
there did strike bruise wound & otherwise
ill treat her then and there did im-
prison and so detained her in impris-
onment for a long time to wit from the
day and year last aforesaid until
this day, contrary to the statute in
such case made and provided and
against the peace and dignity of the
State of Missouri. And the said plain-
tiff avers that before and at the time
of the committing of the premises afo-
said she was and still is a free per-
son and that the said defendant
held and still holds her in slavery
Therefore she brings suit &c

King & Murdock
Attorneys for Plaintiff

Wm. C. C. C. C.
Aug Term 1842

View of the

Colony, who says by the
name of Charles Evans

of the

in the

Samuel D. Hobart

St. J. P. C. C.

The book will open

Jan. 1. in this winter

King & Co.

at the

County of St. Louis, ss.

THE STATE OF MISSOURI,

To the Sheriff of St. Louis County—GREETING:

We command you to

*Summon Samuel Hobart if he
be found in your county, that he be and
appear*

before the Judge of our Circuit Court, on the first day of the next term thereof, to be
held at the City of St. Louis, within and for the county of St. Louis, on the third Mon-
day of *July* next, then and there to answer unto *Vica. (a
woman of color) who sues by her next friend Chesley
Evans of a plea of trespass and false imprison-*
ment

~~to the damage of said plaintiff~~

dollars: And have you then there this writ.

Witness, JOHN RULAND, Clerk of our said Court,
with the seal thereof hereto affixed, at office, in the
city of St. Louis, this *Twenty seventh* day of
April in the year of our Lord eighteen
hundred and forty *two*.

J W Ruland CLERK.

I acknowledge myself bound for all costs that may accrue in the above cause.

Witness my hand and seal, at St. Louis, this day of

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No 31
St Louis Circuit Court
July Term 1842

Neca (a woman of color) who was by
her next friend Chauby Evans

vs
3 Defendants

Samuel Hobart 27th

Suit for freedom

King & Murdock vs

it is ordered - first - That the said Neca
a woman of color be allowed to sue as a free
person & entitled to all rights & freedom & privileges
of a free person of color as her attorney -
Second - That the said Neca have reasonable lib-
erty to attend her counsel and the court as
occasion may require; that she be not re-
moved out of the jurisdiction of the court
and that she be not subject to any slavery
or a servant of her application for freedom
Bryan Mullamphy Judge of the 8th Judicial Cir-
cuit of the State of Missouri, at Chambers in
the county of St Louis this 26th April 1842

Filed April 27th 1842
J. M. P. Clerk

Free

Executed this writ on the 27th day of April
1842, in the County of St. Louis, by reading
it and the annexed declaration to Sam-
uel Hobart the defendant -

Marshall Brotherton Sheriff by
Joseph W. M. Gluey Depy

fee \$1.00
fee in
original
plowp 3.00
4.00

The State of Missouri
To Marshall Brotherton Esquire
Sheriff of the County of St Louis greeting
It appearing to Bryan Mulhenny
the Judge of our Circuit Court
for the Eighth Judicial Circuit
of Missouri that vica a fe-
male of color who hath been ab-
lowed by the order of our said
Judge to sue as a free person
to establish her right to freedom
is about to be removed out of the
jurisdiction of our said Court
You are hereby Commanded to
seize the said Vica wherever she
may be found and bring her be-
fore our said Judge at the Goal in
the city & county of St Louis at nine
o'clock A. M. of tomorrow the
twenty seventh day of April in
the year of our Lord one thousand
Eight hundred and forty two and
summon any person in whose
possession she may be found and
especially one Samuel Hoback
to appear before our said Judge
at the same time & place, as
witness the hand of our said
Judge at Chambers in the County
of St Louis this twenty sixth day
of April in the year aforesaid
Bryan Mulhenny
Judge of the 8th Judicial
Circuit of the State
of Missouri

Wice (woman of color)
as
Saml. Hobart & Geo Charles.
Marshall &

Executed this writ in the County of St Louis
on the 26th April 1842. by summoning Samuel
Hobart and ^{George} ~~Marshall~~ Charles. in whose possession
the said Wice was found. to be and appear before
the Honr Bryan Mullamphy. and by seizing the
said Wice and ^{her} ~~him~~ before said Judge
as Commanded in this writ
Service \$3.00 Marshall Prothonotary Shff
By Henry B Belt Deputy
Service \$3.00

To Marshall Brotherton Esquire Sheriff
of the County of St Louis,

Inasmuch as Vica the woman of
color named in the writ hereto annexed
has been by you brought before me Bryan
Mullanphy Judge of the Eighth Judicial
Circuit this twenty seventh April
in the year of our Lord one thousand eight
hundred and forty two, at Goal in the
County of St Louis, and Samuel Hoban
and ~~William B~~ Charles, in whose possession
said Vica was by you found, were by
you summoned to appear before me at
said place aforesaid on this day at nine
o'clock A.M. and inasmuch as said Hoban
and Charles ~~have not appeared before~~
~~the said court and have~~ and being then
and there ~~called~~ called, in order that
they might come forward and enter into
the recognizance as required by the seventh
section of the act entitled "an act to enable
persons held in slavery to sue for their
freedom", ~~and have~~ ^{not appeared & have declined} failed to enter into
such recognizance, It is hereby ordered,
that you do take possession of the petitioner
and hire her out to the best advantage from
time to time during the pendency of the
suit, the term to be six months or until the
action is determined, and ~~to~~ take a bond from
the hiree payable to the State of Missouri,
in the penalty of ~~xxxx~~ ^{Six} hundred Dollars
with security to be by you approved conditioned,
that the petitioner shall during the pen-
dency of the suit have reasonable liberty

of attending her counsel and the
Court, that she shall not be removed
out of the Jurisdiction of the Court, when
the suit is ~~then~~ Brought, and that
she shall not be subjected to any
severity on account of her application
for freedom - For all of which this shall
be your authority, as witness my
hand at Chambers in the city
& county of St Louis, in the
State of Missouri - Bryan Mulhoney
Judge of the D.D. and
{ Cir. of the State of Missouri

Vica by her next friend
Christy Evans
v
Saml. Hobart

St Louis Circuit Court
July Term 1842
Sent for freedom.

Thadens Alonge by
next friend v

St Louis Cir Court. Same Term
Sent for freedom

John H. Span and others

Musa Ben Abel Gayles
by next friend v

St Louis Cir. Court. Same Term
Sent for freedom.

John H. Span and others

And now at this day comes the attorney
for the plaintiffs and defendants in the above entitled
causes and represent to the Court, that the said
said several causes have been arranged and settled
between the said several parties ⁱⁿ interest and a
transfer and conveyance by the defendants in interest
in the said several causes to Christy Evans of all their
right and title to the said several plaintiffs Vica,
Thadens Alonge, and Musa Ben Abel Gayles - and
thereupon the Court, on motion of the plaintiffs attor-
ney, rescinds the orders by the said Court made in
the said several causes, requiring the Sheriff of the
County of St Louis to hire out the said Vica, the said
Thadens Alonge and the said Musa Ben Abel Gayles, and
that the said Sheriff discharge from his custody and
keeping the said Vica, the said Thadens Alonge, and the
said Musa Ben Abel Gayles - and it is further ordered
by said Court on motion of said plaintiffs attorney that the
said several causes be dismissed.

My dear Mother
I have just received
your letter of the 10th
and was very glad to hear
from you. I am well and
hope this finds you the same.

I have not much news to write
at present. I am still in the
same place and doing the same
work. I hope to hear from
you soon. I am very
affectionately,
Your son,
John

I have just received
your letter of the 10th
and was very glad to hear
from you. I am well and
hope this finds you the same.

I have not much news to write
at present. I am still in the
same place and doing the same
work. I hope to hear from
you soon. I am very
affectionately,
Your son,
John