

## **Claim of Jane Parran**

### **Page 1 of 25**

Mrs. Jane Parran appears in the Definitive List at page 24 as a claimant for six negroes lost during the late war – their names are proved to have been – James Gross – Davy Watts – Damon Parran – Amy Skinner Sophy Skinner daughter of Amy - & Peggy Johnson – The ownership and elopement of these negroes, & that they went to the British during the late war, will I think be proved, to the satisfaction of the Board, by the evidence filed in this case – the more difficult task of making out the time, when they were removed from the U States, although it seems properly to belong to the Government by whose agent they were removed, must not be omitted by the Claimant.

It is proper to remark that there were several British ships of War in the Patuxent River, during the war, from whose Books no returns have been made, as the ship Loire Capt Brown, the Narcisus [sic] Capt Tunley & others – on Board these vessells [sic] great number of negroes were recieved [sic] and carried off – to obviate the difficulty of proving the time when they were taken out of the U States, the stipulations contained in the 3d article of the Convention of St Petersburg, was entered into, there has not been a full compliance on that part of the British government with that engagement – the omissions bears injuriously on the Claimants residing in the lower Counties of Maryland, and furnishes a sufficient ground for a pre sumption in their favour, that all their negroes were removed after the peace. – the testimony was in the sole power of the British government, - they were bound to produce it – it was their interest to suppress it, if found favourable to the claimants – to a certain extent they have suppressed it. With aspect to negro Jim, who is proved to have been called “James Gross” it is in proof, that his wife & her child Sophy went off with him. – they are found together on the Halifax list at page 82 – The claimant has also filed a letter purporting to

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have been written at Windsor, in Nova Scotia, by James Gross on the 7<sup>th</sup> of November 1825, to his sister Chany Gross, a negro woman now living in the neighbourhood of the claimant – It bears the ship mark – was mailed at Boston, & is proved by the post master at St Leonards Calvert County Maryland, to have been recieved [sic] at his office in the regular course of the mail & to have been read by him at the time. It is difficult to authenticate such a paper – it is not pretended that it was written by the negro – he could not write – but it was evidently written by his procurement & under his dictation – the mention by name of so many of the negroes belonging to the Estate of Mrs Parran, the accurate knowledge of the relationship subsisting between them, shewn by the writer – the circumstance of the wife of Jim, who was the mother of Molly Gantt, joining in the letter as appears by her address to her daughter, the mention of Davy Watts and Damon Parran, two other negroes of the claimant who eloped with Jim, authenticate this paper as forcibly as if the negro could have written, & the handwriting was proved to be his. If the letter, with the aid of the testimony to which it is attached furnishes internal testimony of its being authentic – will the Board admit it as proof of the facts contained in it – & allow the inferences that may be fairly drawn from them? The best evidence the nature of a case will admit of, it all that is commonly required – it is unnecessary [sic] to enlarge upon the absolute impossibility [sic], on the part of the claimants of proving by direct evidence, when or where their negroes were sent out of the United States – the circumstances of the war precluded all knowledge of their movements after they joined the Enemy - they are driven to inferior testimony – and the Claimant in this case relies on a letter, written from Nova Scotia by one of the negroes who eloped from her – not prepared to be used as proof – evidently [sic] free from all design & bearing on its face the most unquestionable impression of the truth of what it states – If one be satisfied that the letter is authentic, he cannot entertain a doubt of the truth of what it contains. The Board is to be satisfied on the point in controversy [sic] “when were the negroes removed” – if their minds be convinced by the reading of this letter, the object is attained, the truth has been communicated, why then should evidence of a more strict & legal character

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be asked for, if a formal deposition of the facts mentioned in the letter was produced, it would add nothing to the strength of the conviction, which the letter itself authenticated as it is, must create.

In this Letter Jim mentions besides himself Two other of the negroes for the loss of whom Mrs Parran has filed her claim viz Davy Watts and Damon Parran. "David Watts (he says) a cozen [sic]of mine, & me were safely landed in Nova Scotia" by which it may be very fairly understood that they were carried together from the U States; in the latter part of the letter he says "John Parran would be glad to hear from his Brother Damon Parran, but I have not seen him since the peace, he enlisted as a soldier under the banners of his Br. Majesty & he remains so still". It is very well known that a number of negroes were enlisted by the enemy during the war – that they were kept within the United States until its close & were employed in the invasion of the Country. Damon the enlisted soldier, then, was not taken from the U States the peace & that epoch is referred to by Jim, as the time, since

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when he had not seen him; before then no doubt he had often seen him at Tangier, on board ship, on the coast & within the U States, but the peace occurring [sic], Jim was carried to Nova Scotia, & since then he had not seen Damon – From the preceeding [sic] is it not reasonable to infer, that James Gross and Davy Watts, who were landed together at Halifax, were both taken from the U States after the peace – that Damon was within the U States after the peace is as clear as that he was a Soldier in the service of the enemy – on the Colonial Marine list at page 21. there is a negro called Diamond Paine, who is very probably the Damon Parran of the Claimant - the name is usually pronounced by negroes & uneducated whites, as if it consisted of only one syllable – thus “Parne” the mistake of an r for an i, would make the name “Paine” found on the list – Davy Watts when he left his mistress was 40 years old, on the Halifax list at page 107 there is a negro called James Watts 49 years old.

with respect to Amy & her child Sophy

X It is proved that Amy was the wife of a free negro of the neighbourhood called Guy Skinner, who was about 35 years old - that the said Skinner was missed from the neighbourhood, at the same time that Mrs Parrans negroes went off, & that he had not been seen, except with the British, since.

X at page 97 on the Halifax list, there is a negro James Skinner said to be 36 years old, with his wife said to be about 28 years old, Amy Skinner when she left her mistress was about 24 years old -

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Mrs Jane Parrans

Case –

remarks of the agent

the coincidence in name and age makes it likely that they are the same negroes mentioned in the Claimants proof – On the X same list at page 87 is a negro called Peggy Johnson, said to be 35 years old - the Claimants negro Peggy Johnson, was a child, only 9 years of age, there may, indeed, be a mistake in regard to the age of the negro mentioned in the list - & there is some reason to think so, - since so many of Mrs Parrans negroes have been traced to Halifax, and found on the list by names so nearly resembling those by which her negroes were known – viz – James Gross & wife – Skinner wife Amey – James Watts – this presumption is a fair & reasonable one – that the family of negroes who left Mrs Parran, were kept together, & especially that the negro child Peggy, only 9 years old, was not seperated [sic] from the older negroes, who had taken her off – but was carried with them from the U States to Nova Scotia after the peace - & that she is the same negro mentioned on the Halifax List –

John Marbury

for the Claimant

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State of Maryland Calvert County Sc

I hereby certify that John Clare Esquire before whom  
the within Deposition was made and taken and who has thereto subscribed his name was  
at the time of so doing one of the Justices of the peace of the said State in and for the  
County aforesaid duly Commissioned and Sworn:

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my  
name and affixed the seal of my office this twenty seventh  
day of October in the year of our Lord one thousand  
eight hundred and twenty three:

William S Morsell Clk of  
Calvert County Court

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State of Maryland Calvert County Sc  
On this twenty fifth day of October in the year of  
Eighteen hundred and twenty three personally  
appeared before me the Subscriber a Justice  
of the peace in and for the County and State  
aforesaid, Jese Hungerford and makes oath on the Holy Evangely  
of Almighty God that he knew negro Damon the  
property of Mrs Jane Parran of Calvert County and  
that some time in the month of July or August  
Eighteen hundred and fourteen he saw said  
Damon at the House of the Rev'd Mr Handy with  
the British Troops – that he had heard of ~~him~~  
said Damon going off to the British whilst in the  
Patuxent and that he has never seen or heard  
of him since and that he knows he has never  
returned into the possession of his Mistress that  
he was a likely young Negro man –

Sworn before  
Jn Claw

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Honb'le John Q Adams –

Sir at the time I forwarded  
on a list containing the number ages & sex of my  
Negroes that went on Board the Fleet – I could not  
obtain any positive Testimony of Negro Damon  
being with them – I have now obtained proof  
and inclosed [sic] it to your department to [illegible word crossed out]  
be laid before the Comm's whom I have  
heard are about to [illegible word crossed out] sit in the City of  
Washington and on the Treaty Sc  
I am Sir  
Yrs &

Jane Parran

27<sup>th</sup> Oct 1823



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St Leonards                      Free  
Oct 27<sup>th</sup>

The Hon'ble  
John Q Adams –  
Secretary of State

Washington City

Slaves  
Parran Jane – St Leonard's Md  
(additional proof)

No. 59

**Claim of Jane Parran**  
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State of Maryland Calvert County Sc

On this 12<sup>th</sup> day of Nov. 1827 personally appeared before me the Subscriber a Justice of the peace of the State of Maryland in and for Calvert County Jane Parran and made oath on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God that the following Negroes to wit – Jim Gross, Davy Watts, Damon Parran, Amy Skinner or Dice – Peg Johnson & Sophy Skinner or Dice. the same Negroes mentioned in the Depo-sition of Samuel Turner already filed in the Department of State absconded from her service, (with the exception of Davy Watts) on the same night – and that the British ships were at that time in the Patuxent and near her House and that she verily believes that they went on board the British Fleet –

Sworn to before  
Tho's B King

State of Maryland Calvert County Sc

I hereby certify that Thomas B King Gentleman before whom the above affidavit appears to have been [illegible] subscribed his name is one of the State of Marylands Justices of the peace in and for Calvert County aforesaid duly commissioned & Sworn

In Testimony whereof I have hereto subscribed my name and affixed the seal of Calvert County Court, the 12<sup>th</sup> day of November AD 1827

Wm S Morsell Clk of  
Calv't Co'ty Co't

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Filed Feby 26<sup>th</sup> 1828  
Ad Evidence  
Prince Frederick Town Mar'd / [illegible]

Nov 12<sup>th</sup>

Jane Parran

Claim't

John Marbury Esq

George Town

District of Col'a

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State of Maryland Calvert County Sc  
Personally appeared before me the Subscriber  
a Justice of the peace for the County & State  
aforesaid Benjamin Parran and makes oath  
on the Holy Evanlelist [sic] of Almighty God that Flora  
the wife of Ja's Gross was the mother of  
Molly Gantt and that she went off  
to the British in the ~~sum~~ summer of Eighteen  
hundred and fourteen –  
Sworn before

Hezekiah Coberth  
March 3th 1828

State of Maryland Calvert County Sc  
I Hereby certify that Hezekiah Coberth Gentleman  
before whom the above deposition was made and taken and who has thereto subscribed  
his name was at the time of so doing a Justice of the peace of the said State in  
and for Calvert County aforesaid duly Commissioned and Sworn.  
In Testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my  
name and affixed the Seal of Calvert County Court this  
third day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand  
eight hundred and twenty eight.

William S Morsell Clk of Calv't C'ty Court

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Mrs. Jane Parran  
additional testimony  
Filed 10 Mar: 1828

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State of Maryland Calvert County Sc  
On the 26<sup>th</sup> March 1828 appeared before me the Subscriber  
a Justice of the peace for the County & State  
aforesaid George Ireland and ~~makes oath on the~~  
~~Holy Ev~~ and solemnly sincerely and truly declared  
and affirmed that he lived at the mouth  
of Patuxent River in the year Eighteen hundred  
and fourteen that at the time the British  
Fleet lay in the mouth of Patuxent he saw  
Guy Skinner a Free man on Shore that he  
enquired what he was doing there ~~and was~~  
and where his wife Amey who belonged to Mrs.  
Jane Parran was and was informed that  
he was then with the British and that his wife  
was on board the Fleet, he also saw Negro  
Davy Watts ~~with the British and engaged~~  
the property of Mrs. Jane Parran with the  
British engaged in bringing water to the women  
who were washing on shore - and that  
he has never seen either of said Negroes  
since

Affirmed before  
Tho Mitchell

State of Maryland Calvert County Sc  
I hereby certify that Thomas Mitchell Gentleman  
before whom [the] above deposition was made and taken and who has thereto subscrib  
=ed his [illegible] at the time of so doing a Justice of the peace of the said State  
in and [illegible] County aforesaid duly Commissioned and Sworn.  
In Testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed  
my name and affixed the Seal of Calvert County  
Court this twenty sixth day of March in the year  
of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty  
eight.

William S Morsell Clk of Calv Co'ty Co't

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State of Maryland Calvert County Sc  
On this seventeenth day of March 1828 personally  
appeared before me the Subscriber a Justice of  
the peace of the State & County aforesaid W  
Edward Smothers and makes oath on the Holy Evangely  
of Almighty God that he knew Jim Gross the  
property of Mrs Jane Parran that he had  
Flora Gantt the mother of Molly or Polly  
Gantt for his wife that he also knew  
Amey the wife of a Free Man called  
Guy Skinner & the two children called  
Peg & Sophy, one the child of Amey and  
the other the neice [sic] of Jim Gross, that the  
said Jim Gross Amey & Peg & Sophy went  
on Board the British Fleet in the Patuxent  
near the residence of Mrs. Parran in  
the year 1814 and have never been  
seen by him since and ~~has not~~  
further that they have not returned  
to their Home since that period

Sworn before  
Hezekiah Coberth

**Claim of Jane Parran**  
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State of Maryland Calvert County Sc

I hereby certify that Hezekiah Coberth Gentleman  
before whom the within deposition was made and taken and who has thereto  
subscribed [illegible] was at the time of so doing a Justice of the peace of the  
said {illegible} for Calvert County aforesaid duly Commissioned and Sworn.

In Testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed  
my name and affixed the seal of Calvert County Court  
this seventeenth day of March in the year of our Lord  
one thousand eight hundred and twenty eight.  
William S Morsell Clk of  
Calvert County Court

Jane Parran

Add. Testimony

Recd. March 24<sup>th</sup> 1828

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No. 700



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Calv't

Sir –

I herewith transmit a list of the  
Negroes belonging to me, ~~that~~ who went on board  
the British Fleet whilst in the waters of the Patuxent  
in the Month of July 1814 –

Davy – aged 40 yrs – Male.. tradesman.....	\$500.00
Jim aged 37 yrs Male.....	400.00
Damon aged 24 yrs Male.....	500.00
Amey aged 24 yrs Female.....	350.00
Pegg or Margaret aged 9 yrs Female.....	250.00
Sophy a child of Ameys aged 3 yr a Female.....	<u>100.00</u>
	\$2,100.00

Jane Parrann

State of Maryland Calv't County Sc 28<sup>th</sup> Apr 1821  
Personally appeared before me the Subscriber a Justice  
of the peace in and for Calvert County Sam'l Turner the next  
door neighbor of Mrs. Jane Parrann and made oath on  
the Holy Evangely of Almighty God that he knew Davy, Jim  
Damon & Amey – that they all except Davy went off the same  
night – as he was informed and believes by the overseer of  
Mrs. Parrann who is since dead, the children included, that  
some few days afterwards, the British landed on a plunder  
=ing expedition – that this deponent found out they had  
gotten his work oxen – that for the purposes of again  
obtaining them from the British he went to their place  
of embarkation on Island Creek and very near where  
this deponent then lived, that he then saw ~~Jim~~ Negro  
Man Jim armed with a Cutlass and Davy sitting  
in one of the barges having just gone to them, this  
Deponent having seen him but a few hours before  
in the employment of his Mistress on the Farm they  
were fine looking Negroes and worth as much as any  
Negroes in the State of their ages and vocations and this  
Deponent thinks the prices at which they are charged are correct -  
Sworn to before  
Wm C Dawkins

**Claim of Jane Parran, Calvert County, Case No. 700, Case Files. Ca. 1814-28, entry 190,  
Record Group 76, National Archives, College Park. MSA SC 5496-050775**

**Claim of Jane Parran**  
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State of Maryland Calvert County Sc  
Personally appeared before me the Subscriber a  
Justice of the peace in and for Calvert County this twenty  
eighth day of April 1821 John Mackall a near neighbour  
of Mrs. Jane Parran and made oath on the Holy Evangely  
of Almighty God that he knew Davy, Jim, Damon  
Negro Men & woman Amey and Girls Peg or Margaret-  
and Sophy – the property of Mrs. Jane Parrann, that the  
said Negroes except Davy all absconded on the same  
night some time in the month of July 1814 & whilst the  
British Fleet was in the Patuxent – and that he verify  
believes they went on board said Fleet – and that  
they are set down at a fair price –

Wm C Dawkins

State of Maryland, Calvert County Sc  
I Hereby certify that William C Dawkins  
Gentleman before whom the annexed depositions were made and taken  
and who has thereto subscribed his name was at the time of so doing one  
of the Justices of the peace of the said State in and for Calvert County  
aforesaid duly Commissioned and Sworn ...  
In Testimony whereof I have hereunto  
subscribed my name and affixed the Seal  
of my office this sixteenth day of May in  
the year of our Lord Eighteen hundred and  
twenty one.

Wm S Morsell Clk of Calvert  
County Court

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Mrs Jane Paran [sic]

[writing of page 16 appears partially at top of page 17]

St Leonards } Free

May 28<sup>th</sup> }

The Hon'ble

John Q Adam[s]

Secretary of St[ate]

Washington

Parrann, Jane } Calvert } 28 April [illegible]

Hellen, Rebecca } Co. Md } 25 May "

6 Slaves of J.P. - \$2100 -

~~1 Slave of R.H. - \$500 -~~

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To the care of 27  
Captain James Graves Marrinner [sic]  
who sails to Baltymore [sic] from Chesapeak [sic] Bay  
United States of America. It comes from  
Jacob Goola Nova Scotia to be forwarded to  
Chany Gross who lives above Leonards Creek  
Town –

Windsor November 7<sup>th</sup> 1825

Dr Sister

I Embrace this favourable opportunity of sending  
you these few lines from Novascotia hoping they may find you  
in perfect health as they have me now at Persent [sic] dear Sister It is  
with extacy [sic] of Joy I have to announce to you that your Brother James  
Gross is still living in Novascotia and also your Sister aggy – Joseph  
Mason my old Playmate with gladness of heart I Embrace this opportu  
=nity of letting you know that I am a live and well in NovaScotia and  
I earnestly hope that you may find an opportunity of sending me a few  
lines back which shall afford me Every consolation to hear from you  
Dear daughter Molly Gant [sic] with gladness your mother Embraces this  
opportunity of sending you these few lines in order to let you know  
that I am in a poor state of health this year or two back still  
I ardently hope that these few lines will find you in Perfect health  
although I should not. I hope you will find an opportunity of  
sending me a few lines and let me know Every Particulars concerning  
how you are Situated. John Parrin I am happy of having an  
opportunity of leting [sic] you know and your Sisters and little ones that  
I am a live

but not in a good state of health and [illegible]. I never expected to be in this world but still I ardently hope that these few lines will find you all in Prefect [sic] health which is the wish of my heart, Oak Michel my Compliments to you and I hope that this will find you in good health although I should not be so – Margaret Goole my compliments to you and your children hoping that these few lines will find you in good health and I should be very glad If you could find and [sic] opportunity of sending me a few lines. I should be very happy to hear from you. Tho's Rollins and William Rollins my compliments to you and hope they will find you in good health and If an opportunity should answer I should be very glad to hear from you, David Watts a Cousin of mine and me were safely landed in Novascotia I live Some distance from him but I have an opportunity of frequently hearing from him and as I know that his Mother and sisters would be glad to hear from him I let them know that he is a live and well. I know that John Parrens would be glad to hear from his Brother deamon [sic] Parn [sic] but I have not seen him since the Peace as he Inlisted [sic] as a Soldier under the Banners of his Britanick [sic] majesty and he remains so still. My compliments to all my relations and friends in America and I hope my Compliments will find them all well and hearty and I remain Yr affectionate Brother James Gross -

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State of Maryland Calvert County Sc  
On this 25<sup>th</sup> February 1828 personally appeared before me the Subscriber a Justice of the peace of the State of Maryland in and for Calvert County William C Dawkins and makes oath on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God that ~~the annexed letter~~ he was Post Master at St Leonards Creek Town in the year 1826 and that some time in the winter of 1826 to the best of his recollection in the month of February the annexed letter came to the Post office at St Leonards, that he delivered it to John Parran the Slave of Benjamin Parran to be delivered to Chaney Gross that some short time after it was brought to this deponent to be read – that he read it & returned it to the said John Parran, that he also knows Joe Mason a Freeman who resides in the neighbourhood of St Leonards – also Oak Michel or Mackall the Slave of Mrs Jane Parran and John Parran the slave of Benjamin Parran the son of Mrs. Jane Parran all of whom are mentioned in the above letter, that he also knew Davy Watts, mentioned in the above letter as being landed in Nova Scotia – who was the Slave of Mrs. Jane Parran and who went off with the British in the summer of 1814.

Sworn before -  
Tho's B King

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On the State of Maryland Calvert County Sc

On this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February 1828 personally appeared before me the Subscriber a Justice of the peace of the State & County aforesaid Joseph I Hellen and makes oath on the Holy Eangely [sic] of Almighty God – that he knew James ~~Gross~~ Gross whose name is to the above letter – that he was the slave of Mrs Jane Parran of Calvert County that he went off with the British in the year 1814 – that he knows Joe Mason a Freeman who lives in the neighbourhood of St Leonards Creek Town – that he also knows Oak Mackall John Parran Margaret Goaler Thomas Rollins & William Rollins who were at that time with the exception of John Parran the Slaves of Mrs. Jane Parran – that John Parran belongs to Benj'n Parran. he also knew David Watts & Deamon Parran also the Slaves of Mrs. Jane Parran both of whom went off with the British in the summer of 1814. That Deamon Parran was the Brother of John Parran and from the correct references to the Negroes in the neighbourhood and particularly to the Negroes of Mrs. Jane Parran he has no doubt the letter was dictated by James Gross – he also knows Chaney Gross to whom the letter is addressed and that she lives about two or three miles from St Leonard Creek Town

Sworn before

Tho 's B King

State of Maryland Calvert County Sc

On this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February 1828 personally appeared before me the Subscriber a Justice of the peace for the State and County aforesaid John Barrett and makes oath on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God that he knows Chaney Gross to whom the above letter is directed and that he also knew James Gross whose name is to the above letter ~~and~~ the Slave of Mrs. Jane Parran and that he heard Chaney Gross say that she had received a letter from her Brother James Gross –

Sworn before

Thomas B King

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Calvert County State of Maryland to wit  
On this 16<sup>th</sup> of February 1828 – Personally app-  
-eared before Henry Tanner, before me the subs-  
criber a justice of the peace, for county and  
state aforesaid [sic], and made oath on the Holy  
Evangely of Almighty God That he knew  
Davy Wats [sic], James Gross, Damon Parran, Amy  
Skinner, Peggy, a girl, and Sophia, a child, and  
that he knew Guy Skinner a Free Negro man  
about 35 years of age, claimed Amy Skinner  
for a wife, and that he knew the six first men  
tioned Negroes to be the Property of Mrs Jane Parran  
and that he believes they all went to the British  
in the month of july or august, in the year  
1814, as they were all missin [sic], and the British  
then within 2 or 3 miles of Mrs Parrans Farm,  
and they have Never Been seen since except with  
the British, and that Guy Skinner was missin [sic]  
with Mrs Parrans Negroes, and has never been  
seen since except with the British  
Sworn before-  
Thomas B King

State of Maryland Calvert County to wit  
On the twentieth day of Febr eighteen hundred  
and twenty eight personally appeared Mary Ridgeway  
before me the Subscriber a Justice of the peace  
of the State and County aforesaid, and made oath  
on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God ~~made oath~~  
that she knew negro James Gross to be the property  
of Jane Parran in the month of July eighteen –  
hundred and fourteen and that she believes that  
a certain letter bareing [sic] date the seventh day of  
November eighteen hundred and twenty five from  
Windsor Novascotia were written under the  
direction of said James Gross and forwarded to  
Chaney Gross who lived at that time in Calvert  
County near St Leonards Creek and who is [illegible word crossed out]  
said to be the sister of said James Gross – and that David Watts

**Claim of Jane Parran, Calvert County, Case No. 700, Case Files. Ca. 1814-28, entry 190,  
Record Group 76, National Archives, College Park. MSA SC 5496-050775**



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and Damon Parran mentioned in said letter were the property of Mrs Jane Parran; that that all the other negroes mentioned in said letter were here at the time James went to the British and belonged to the same family – that said James belonged to – Except three viz Joseph Mason, Polly Gant, and said Chany Gross – also that Mrs Mary Ridgeway – knew negro woman Amy her child Sophia and and negro girl Peggy to be the property of Mrs. Jane Parran in eighteen hundred and fourteen and absconded [sic] on the same night that said James [illegible] and has never been seen since  
Sworn to before  
Levin W Ballard

~~On the~~ State of Maryland Calvert County Sc  
On this 25<sup>th</sup> day of February 1828 personally appeared before me the Subscriber a Justice of the peace of the State & County aforesaid Joseph I Hellen and makes oath on the Holy Eangely [sic] of Almighty God – that he knew James ~~Gross~~ Goos whose name is to the above letter – that he was the slave of Mrs Jane Parran of Calvert County that he went off with the British in the year 1814 – that he knows Joe Mason a Freeman who lives in the neighbourhood of St Leonards Creek Town – that he also knows Oak Mackall John Parran Margaret Goaler Thomas Rollins & William Rollins who were at that time with the exception of John Parran the slaves of Mrs Jane Parran – that John Parran belongs to Benj'n Parran. he also knew David Watts & Deamon Parran also the slaves of Mrs. Jane Parran both of whom went off with the British in the summer of 1814. That Deamon Parran was the Brother of John Parran and from the correct references to the Negroes in the neighbourhood and particularly to the Negroes of Mrs. Jane Parran he has no doubt the letter was dictated by James Gross – he also knows Chaney Gross to whom the letter is addressed and that she lives about two or three miles from St Leonards Creek Town  
Sworn before  
Thos B King

**Claim of Jane Parran, Calvert County, Case No. 700, Case Files. Ca. 1814-28, entry 190, Record Group 76, National Archives, College Park. MSA SC 5496-050775**

**Claim of Jane Parran**  
**Page 23 of 25 - continued**

State of Maryland Calvert County Sc

On this 28<sup>th</sup> day of February 1828 personally appeared before me the Subscriber a Justice of the peace of the State and County aforesaid John Barrett and makes oath on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God that he knows Chany Gross to whom the above letter is directed and that he also knew James Gross whose name is to the above letter ~~and~~ the Slave of Mrs. Jane Parran and that he heard Chany Gross say that she had received a letter from her Brother James Gross -  
Sworn before  
Thomas B King

State of Maryland Calvert County Sc

I Hereby certify that Thomas B King and Levin W Ballad [sic] Gentlemen before whom the annexed depositions were made and taken and {who} have thereto subscribed their names were at the time of so doing two [illegible] the peace of the said State in and for Calvert County aforesaid duly [illegible] Sworn.  
In Testimony whereof I have hereunto subscribed my name and affixed the Seal of Calvert County {C}ourt this twenty sixth day of February in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and twenty eight.  
William S Morsell Clk of  
Calvert County Court

**Claim of Jane Parran**  
**Page 24 of 25**

State of Maryland Calvert County Sc  
Personally appeared before me the  
Subscriber a Justice of the peace for the  
State & County aforesaid Samuel Turner and makes oath  
on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God – that  
he knew Jim otherwise called Jim Gross  
the property of Jane Parran for a  
number of years and that the said  
Jim was called and known by the  
name of Jim Goos and that he saw him  
with the British armed with a Sword –  
Sworn before  
Tho's B King

**Claim of Jane Parran**  
**Page 25 of 25**

700

Mrs Jane. Parran

Power of attorney

& Deposition

Recd March 3<sup>rd</sup> 1828

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28 Mar: 1828

Taking of all proved

- for Damon – [illegible] Diamond

Paine B: Doc: p: 21

[illegible]

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May 23d – 1828 Allow'd

for six slaves taken

From Md @ 280 [illegible]

\$1680 Int reserved

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Paid 12 [illegible]