

Claim of John Fitzhugh
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To the Hon'ble Board of Commissioners for adjusting claims under the 1st Article of the treaty of Ghent. The petition of William K. Fitzhugh respectfully represents that he lost a slave during the late war by the name of John, which said John resided with your petitioner's father John Fitzhugh in Calvert County in the state of Maryland, and was carried away by the British forces contrary to the first Article of the treaty of Ghent. Your petitioner further states that his said father, your petitioner being then already residing at New Orleans in the State of Louisiana, put in the said claim for the lost slave in his own name though acting, in that behalf only as the agent of your petitioner. Your petitioner further states that he filed some time since the affidavit of one Alexander Watson who was his father's overseer at the time the aforesaid slave was taken away by which he proved the surname of the said slave as also that the property of the said slave was in your petitioner; from which said affidavit he concluded that your honors would see that the said slave was his property and would allow him the compensation accordingly. But so it is that the compensation for the said slave has been awarded to his father, to whom this slave did not belong instead of your petitioner who was the rightful owner; as will be manifest from the letter of his said Father directed to Henry Ashton his attorney in that behalf which is herewith filed and marked Exhibit A

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Wherefore your petitioner respectfully prays your honors to reconsider the said award which is 863 on the docket and; to allow the compensation for this said slave to your petitioner and as in duty bound.

H. Ashton for Wm K Fitzhugh

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Free

The Honorable
John Quincy Adams
Department of State.
Washington

863

Slaves
Fitzhugh John – Calvert Co Md
1 Slave – John \$600
Recd 17 Oct'r 1823

69

October 1823

Sir

I have the honor of inclosing a statement under oath (supported by the deposition of a respectable disinterested witness) of the loss of a Negro taken by the British during the last war, whilst the Squadron had the command and laid in the waters of the Patuxent in the State of Maryland. This I have done in conformity to the notice of the meeting of the commissioners under the Treaty of Ghent on the 20th of the present month – I have the honor to be very respectfully
Yr Ob't Ser't

John Fitzhugh

The Honorable
John Quincy Adams

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Wm. K. Fitzhugh
Filed July 14th 1828

Washington District of Columbia to wit
Be it remembered that on the 14th Day of
July 1828 before the Subscriber a Justice
of the Peace in and for the County aforesaid
personally appeared Alexander Watson and
made oath on the holy Evangely of almigh
-ty God that he was well acquainted with
a certain negro slave the property of William
K Fitzhugh of Calvert County in the State of
Maryland by the name of John who eloped
from his said master in the year 1814 and
went away with the British Forces and
that the said slave before his said elopement
was usually called and known by the name
of John that is John Stiles -
Sworn before

[illegible] J.P.

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Know all men by these presents, that I William K. Fitzhugh of Calvert County in the State of Maryland have constituted and appointed, and by these presents, do constitute and appoint Colonel Henry Ashton, of the city of Washington, in the District of Columbia, my true and lawful Attorney, for and in my name to demand and receive from the Government of the United States, and in all lawful ways to prosecute all claims which I have for compensation for slaves, and other property, captured by the British forces, during the late war of 1812, between the said Government of the United States and the Government of Great Britain, and carried away contrary to the provisions of the first article of the treaty of Ghent, and acquittances to give in the manner that I could do myself if present; and ih [sic] my name in this behalf.

As witness my hand and seal this fifteenth day of April eighteen hundred and twenty – eight
Wm K Fitzhugh {seal}

{seal}

Signed, sealed and delivered }
In the presence of }

R.S. Briscoe

District of Columbia County of Washington to wit
Be it remembered that on this 15th day of April 1828 before the subscriber a justice of the peace in and for the county aforesaid personally appeared William K. Fitzhugh party to the above instrument of writing or power of attorney and acknowledged the same to be his act and deed for the purpose therein mentioned
Acknowledged before

R.S. Briscoe J. Peace

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Slaves

[illegible] Fitzhugh's Letter of Oct – 1823

Recd 17 “ “

1 Slave – John - \$600

Statement of the Loss of a Slave by the name of John –
State of Maryland Calvert County

Be it remembered that on this first day of October eighteen hundred and twenty three personally appeared before the subscriber one of the States Justices of the Peace for Calvert County and State aforesaid John Fitzhugh of the county and State aforesaid and made oath on the Holy Evangely of Almighty God, deposeth and saith that on or about the last of the month of June or first of July 1814 his negro mulatto slave by the name of John and aged about Twenty years was taken and carried from his farm (whereon this deponent resided) on board the frigate Severn at that time commanded Captain Nourse then lying in the waters of the Patuxant [sic] or some one of the vessels of the Squadron then under the comand [sic] of Captain Nourse – and that the said mulatto John was worth the sum of six hundred dollars and to the best of his knowledge and judgement the valuation annexed to his name as above stated is a true and just one and that he was worth the sum of money at which he is appraised and valued and that his colour name and age are true descriptions of the said negro John – Sworn to before me the day and year above written –
Slave John – age 20 valued at \$600 – a valuable waiter and house servant –

[illegible] Lewis
a Justice of the Peace

seal

At the same time personally appeared before me the States Justice of the peace aforesaid John Tucker who being duly sworn deposeth and saith that he will knew negro slave John the property of the aforesaid John Fitzhugh who was taken and carried away by some of the officers and men under the command of Captain Nourse of the his Britanic [sic] magesties [sic] frigate the Severn then lying in the water of the Patuxent

Claim of John Fitzhugh, Calvert County, Case No. 863, Case Files. Ca. 1814-28, entry 190, Record Group 76, National Archives, College Park. MSA SC 5496-050711

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this deponent [sic] saw the said mulatto man John at his house in the possession and under the command of the said Captain Nourse carrying his Fusee and spy glass in the capacity of a waiter and he believes as a conductor for the party and that he values and appraises [sic] the said slave John to be worth the sum of six hundred dollars and that his name and age are true descriptions of the said slave Sworn to before me the day and year above stated

[illegible] Lewis

seal

State of Maryland, Calvert County Sc
I hereby certify that William F. Lewis
Esquire before whom the foregoing 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 eighth day of October
Anno Domini 1823

William S Morsell Clk of
Calv't County Court

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Fitzhugh John

Slave Md

28th July 1828 allowed

for one slave taken

from Maryland @

\$280 – Interest reserved