

Transcript of 1859 May 31: Wiley P. Cryer and citizens of Lafayette County, to Governor Elias Conway, Petition to pardon a negro slave, Anthony, owned by James R. McClintock, L.C. Gulley collection, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas.

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Lewisville Arks May 31st 1859.  
Governor Elias Conway

Little Rock

Dear sir herewith inclosed I send you the petition of citizens of the county for the reprieve of Anthony now belonging to James R McClintock. The petition is signed by many, and would be by many more as to my knowledge it is almost a universal feeling with the people that he should be reprieved

Your most obedient servt  
Wily, P, Cryer

P. S. I enclose this by request  
yours &c  
W.P.C.

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To his excellency Elias N. Conway, Governor  
of the State of Arkansas.

The petition of the subscribers,  
citizens of the county of Lafayette,  
and State of Arkansas, respectfully;  
showeth; That on the 27th day of November,  
1855 Anthony a negro slave was tried  
in the circuit court of said county, and by  
the jury found guilty of poisoning or attempting  
to poison one Alexander T. McAlexander;  
and on the 28th day of November 1855  
the said court sentenced the said negro to the  
imprisoned in the common Jail of Lafayette  
county for the turn of ten years from the  
said 28th day of November 1855 which will  
now fully and at large appear by a duly

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authenticated copy of the judgment of  
said court hereto annexed marked exhibit "A":

That at the time of the trial  
and judgment of said court in the premises  
said negro belonged to the estate of James S.  
Conway deceased; and by said judgment the  
costs of said trial or suit were not adjudged  
against said estate or any person or  
persons, as will fully appear by the judgement  
of the court hereto annexed marked  
exhibit "A" That therefore ~~not~~ only the  
costs of said trial and suit, but also the expense

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or costs of the imprisonment of said negro for  
ten years is unjustly and erroneously fostrued  
upon the county of Lafayette.

Your petitioners, verily believe that  
no good can result to the county of Lafayette,  
the country or to society by keeping said  
negro imprisoned in the Jail of said county  
for ten years, or for any other period, and  
that the circumstances of the case do  
not warrant or justify, that the citizens  
of Lafayette county should be so unnecessarily  
burthened and taxed, for the purpose  
of paying the expenses of the imprisonment  
of said negro in accordance  
with said judgement. But on the contrary,  
they believe it would be to the interest  
of Lafayette county that said slave  
should be pardoned and discharged,  
and said county thereby relieved from the  
tax of such imprisonment without its in any manner  
resulting detrimentally to the interest  
of society, or the county of Lafayette or  
the country at large.

Your petitioners would further

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make known that they are informed and believe that James R. McClintock has, since the vindication of said judgement at the time aforesaid, become the owner of such

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interest as the estate of the said James S. Conway had in and to said negro after the renditions of said judgement.

Your petitioners sincerely desiring and confidently hoping that your excellency will determine favorably upon these your petitioners petition, do most respectfully and urgently ask and hope that your excellency may pardon and release the said negro Anthony from the sentence herein. before referred to, and which is at larger set forth in said exhibit "A".

Your petitioners are induced to petition your excellency for that purpose entirely for the interest and benefit of the county of Lafayette, and not for the benefit of any individual, or numbers of persons disconnected or aside from his or their interest as a citizen or citizens of the county of Lafayette.

Your petitioners having thus briefly made known the causes why your excellency should in this instance wisely interpose in this behalf, and grant their prayer for the pardon of said negro Anthony; they assure your excellency that as in duty bound they will ever pray &c

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Jas. Abraham | James Demoss Jr  
Wiley, P. Cryer | W J Hooper

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Morgan, Cryer | E B Dod  
Ka. Ler | John McDonald  
Wm. H. Fillmore | J.C. Mouldin  
W.H. Lemoy | Don Penedo his X Costinado  
P.O. Waggoner | N.W. Murphy  
A.Y. Radis | G W Cheathour  
J W Morris | A N Lee  
S W Tatum | Lewis B Fort  
C R Boyr | A F Covey  
E B Stut | James deceaux  
John S. Ferguson | Joseph Weeks  
Sam H Dill | Jorge H Demay  
A W Kelly | Thomas J Harvey  
W N McMath | Josiah M Daniell  
Isaac Weaver | E A Scott  
Thos. M Cryer | James H Jones  
I H Biggors | Thos. P. Arnato  
Thos. J. Edwards | Reuben House  
Josiah Lester | John S House  
R B Rutherford | D W Harris  
Will H. Garland | A. J. Strong  
G. W. Foster | Geo. Maton  
J. L. Howard | I. Garland  
J. P. Dickson | William H Wilson  
                  | John J Ryan  
S F Culberson | W Brunnerlyn  
John W Williams |

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W. D. Fort | John. S. French  
W N Stricklin | W. M. Clark  
K. B. Ford | F. M. Porter  
R. Jolly | M A Beyard  
Enoch Carpenter | A. M. Waldrip  
Boykin Sell | J J Steven  
B. B. Battle | N P Hobson  
W R Crump | Davis T Demetz  
                  | Davis B Crocket  
A. H. Ruben | Daniel McKenzie  
Jackson Lackey | James Mobley  
H. M. Lemay | W. T. Adams

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Lessey Wolden | Y. B. Milles  
B. H. Griffin | J D Blanton  
E A Murphy | Owen Collins  
Robt. P. Crowell | S. S. Matocks  
William. S. Rodgers | Wm Freeman Jr  
J. J. Fort | P Sanderson  
J Hurt Esq | A M McCallum  
| James M Jones  
Thomas. M. Drury Esq | M.W. Tatum  
Lewis A. Fort | J.F. Adams  
Henry McCullough | William Quirk  
M H Lively | Robt. H. Flynn  
Wm. M. Click | James T Adames  
William Porterfield | W. R. Kelly  
Andrew Jones | H J Hammel  
Thos Brooks |  
B. W. H. Menees | R May  
| W M Gilbert

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A C Swain | D B McIntock  
W C Bradley | Thos. Ivy  
T.J. Maguire | W A McKnight  
A P Black | J. Martin  
| F. M. Waldrip  
J.P. Sutton | J P Buzzard  
W.G. Green | H.B. Montgomery  
John G. McMath Castroh | W.P. Haynes  
J M Larcy | James. T. Reynolds  
W.A. Shackelford  
G.N. Baker  
A Byrne  
B.R. Harrel  
Jas. P. Battle  
J B Glass  
C.J Stut  
W.M. Lestor  
G C Wills  
W J Lewis  
Henry Landes  
James Jones

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David H. Dickson  
James. A. Lee  
A. R. Sanders  
Jno. C. Caniter  
S. T. Hooks  
W L Worsham  
W K. Parkin

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State of Arkansas  
County of Lafayette |

Proceeding had  
in the Circuit Court of Lafayette County;  
in the State of Arkansas, in Term  
same, before the Hon Thomas Hubbard  
Judge of the 6th Judicial circuit  
of Arkansas, on the 28th day of November  
1855.

The State of Arkansas  
| Indictment for poisoning &C.  
Anthony, a Negro Slave.

On this day came  
the State of Arkansas by E.W. Gant  
his prosecuting attorney, and moved  
the court for Judgment against Anthony  
a slave, who stands convicted of  
administering, or causing, to be administered  
poison to, and with intent to kill and  
murder one Alexander T. McAlexander.  
who is therefore brought into court in the custody of  
the Sheriff, and thereupon it being  
demanded of him if ~~he~~ any thing ~~he~~  
~~he~~  
for himself he had or knew to say, why its  
court here should not now pronounce  
judgment against him according to  
Law, and nothing being offered or  
alleged in delay of Judgment in

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this case and the court being sufficiently

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advised in the premises. It is therefore considered and ordered by the court that the said Anthony be imprisoned in the common Jail of Lafayette county for and during the term of two years from this time.

And thereupon comes said defendant in his own proper person, and by attorney did file his motion in arrest of Judgment, and for a new trial herein, and the same being submitted to the court, and the court being sufficiently advised thereon. It is therefore considered, ordered and adjudged by the court that said motions and each of them by and the same are ~~hereby~~ respectively overruled. Whereupon the said defendant by his attorneys excepts with opinion of the courts in overruling his said motions and each of them, tenders with court here his Bill of exceptions & the opinion and Judgment of the court overruling his said several motions in arrest of Judgment and for a new trial herein and prayed that the same might be signed sealed and made of Record herein.

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which was accordingly done.

State of Arkansas  
County of Lafayette |

I. James M.

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Montgomery clerk of the Circuit Court  
in and for the County of Lafayette  
and State of Arkansas, do hereby  
certify that the annexed and  
foregoing is a true and perfect  
copy of the Judgment of the State  
of Arkansas against Anthony, a negro  
Slave, as the same appears of Record  
in the said court.

In Testimony whereof I have  
hereunto set my hand as such  
clerk, and affixed the seal  
of my office at Lewisville this  
the 14th day of May AD 1859

J. M. Montgomery Clerk

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Exhibit A referred to in the  
foregoing petitions  
J. M. Covington