

Hall Family Papers and Sugar Plantation Records

1709 - 1892

MSS.220

1748, May 9: The humble Petition of the innocent disciples and sons of Christ (commonly called the negro..



Copyright: Public Domain

Use: This digital copy of the work is intended to support research, teaching, and private study.

Constraints: This work may be used without prior permission.

Note on digitized version: The original manuscripts for this collection are held by the University of California, San Diego Library. A microfilm copy of this collection is also held by UC San Diego. The digitized version presented here reflects the quality of the microfilm.

20
10
5
5
4
1

15

Copy of the petition
of the Town of Kingston
1748

To the Honorable Edward Manning Esq. of his Majesty's
Representatives of the Town of Kingston &c.

The humble Petition of the innocent distressed Sons of this
Commonwealth the Negro Slaves of the said Town, and present in
behalf of themselves and one hundred and fiftieth part of their
Brethren, unjustly and unhumanly detained in servitude and
Bondage in the Island of Jamaica.

Sheweth That whereas your Petitioners have heard that your Honour
and friend Robert Watson Esq. by the hand of Robert Jennings Esq. have
brought in a Bill intituled An Act to make us evidence sufficient
on our Oath words as we know it to be in our Oath to take
from our unjust Masters the white men of this Island their Liberty
property and to take from them that shelter to which for many
years they have stood a Fair equal Jurors and Lawful witnesses
and that none but your Honour & yours shall have the bearing
of their cause. And your Honour's favor of this Creature for such
purpose chiefly created, and that our Egyptian Masters
shall be deeply fined, imprisoned & forfeit their right to our
profits if now we are not secured of Lawful and that not only
by their own fault, injustice or violence of our white men
possessors of the ground of the said Island, but also
by the like fault, injustice or violence of our white men
assessors or attorneys overseers and that all Negro Slaves or white
shall be good evidence against them, professing as we did
shall be imprisoned till they can think or promise to say against
our white Masters Masters for overseers or attorneys or servants by
the same person to transport us and that this Act be not
signification for our white men which your Honour shall
always stand with shall be a distinguished
duorum. And for redressing by our means and information
the abominable crime of any white man, who shall do this or
complain at home of you or your Honour &c.

And whereas we have a petition of the white men, which
proposed to be heard against the said Negro Slaves
you was so good as to send the motion for your Honour
in the said day of passing which we have reason to believe
for your narrow sake you would have voted without reading
at all which if granted would prevent our petition of the
promised and how by your and your Honour's men's hearing in
now contrary to our natural rights as men, contrary to
your darling Constitution of Brittain contrary to Religion Morality
& finally contrary to Equity & good Conscience.

And whereas you and your Honour have promised to limit
all manner of freedom laws or a foot nigalot law or information
goods Liberty, or any thing with the people of this Island
your.

The promises intended, and all that stand against the people
will now flourish white people are sufficiently managed
some of the white men, which you now do so well as to do as by
subjecting the white men to the Black laws & bringing
about by our means an extinction of the Jew. Your petitioners
beg to do to desire you to add in furtherance to the Bill
and to it further enacted by the authority aforesaid that all
arrests or commitments shall be for the future in every plantation
& lodged in the Black houses or favourable Negroes
in order for us to prevent the violence aforesaid and
that the Negro Slaves to all intents purposes be deemed good
sufficient Lawful witnesses against the said people called
Jews as the same taken a fact said & Co. in all respects equal

to the Jews of this land in anything relating to their
to their own information good or bad by their own hands &
that your petition be read only by Juniors and the
whom you formerly used to be now is an undeniable
high Commission in Virginia by the act the
power of the white man's made that false future
all negro slaves be kept by 12 years or the wife
good and red words as to those or in your aid
take our great humanity shall be in most

If your petition shall be in prayer of
The marks of Cadjo for Kingston was read
Cadjo said the above petition was to the best of
his knowledge & further said that the marks of Cadjo
from before me in May 14 148
Vera Copia &c. 11 B. m. y. / thousand ready to say
The passing of the bill or more if required.

James Thomas friend of the parish of Kingston
Merchant made the oath that on or about the middle of
May instant at this Deposition was passing by the Court
House of said parish the name of a crowd of people
concluded the writing that is written by Will Work
of said parish who has fuger standing on some thing
that raised him above the people was reading
the paper writing how in to an end that having
read said the words of the paper I obby said that
was not the business of the Court nor about or words
to that effect upon which said Will Work handed
it down upon which the report took it & brought
it away with him out of the hands of said Will Work
further lay report said that he is well acquainted
with the handwriting of James Smith doct. of
the parish of said parish having often heard from
him write & that he by the way the same to be all
the handwriting of said Smith for the
May the 13th 1448

Sworn before me
Chas. Prince
Copia Vera
The Coose of the above by

The original was
numbered.



A vertical column of faint, illegible markings or text on the right side of the page, possibly bleed-through or a separate column of text.