

To the Honorable the Speaker and members of the General  
Assembly of Virginia

Your petitioner William Brathwaite (a free  
man of Colour, humbly complying respectfully  
sheweth: that he was manumitted by  
Mr. George Carpenter late of the County of  
Rockingham: that prior to his emancipation he  
intermarried with a Slave Woman the property  
of Col. Trenway, that his wife is a family  
servant, and cannot be purchased: your petitioner  
will shortly be under the necessity of leaving  
the State, in obedience to the Laws, consequently  
leaving his wife. His wife is upwards of  
60 years of age, your Petitioner is upwards of 40  
He therefore prays the Interposition of your  
Honorable body that he may be permitted to  
remain in the County of Rockingham. But if  
it should be deemed inconsistent with the  
policy of the Government to Permit him to  
remain for life He humbly begs 4 or 5 years  
when in all probability his age or wife may  
sink into the Grave, when your petitioner can  
say I have no wife no Child no father no

Mother and will feel on duty bound to depart in  
Peace and he will ever pray for

Text  
David Stute

William + Sister  
must

The undersigned do hereby certify that they have long been  
acquainted with the above named William <sup>Mother</sup> ~~father~~  
(a free man of color), <sup>a number of years</sup> that he is considered strictly honest  
innocent, and remarkably industrious, that he never  
wants employment, moreover that his labour has been  
highly beneficial to the part of the country where he  
resides. In the opening of Wells Excavating ponds  
removing obstructions from the Public Roads and  
the banking of berms & Queen under our hands  
this 2d of December 1829

And M. Clellan John Kenney

David Stute  
Jacob Robt  
Herriens  
John G. Brown  
John I. Rife John H. Effinger  
Philip Miller Henry Tutwiler  
Henry Magin Joseph Thornton  
Anderson & Newman Thomas Clarke  
John A. Jackson

Isaac Hargrave  
Jacob Hanch  
John Crammey  
Robert Hargrave  
James A. Gilworth  
M. Stute

Isaac Hargrave  
Peter Hargrave  
John Daniels  
Simon Hargrave  
M. Stute  
Anderson Smith  
John Crane  
John Robt  
Joseph Biken  
John B. Lowman  
John H. Nesell  
George Miller  
George Clarke  
Casper Clutter  
Samuel Sterling  
William B. Keller  
A. Hancock

James Gillice  
Gordon Rodgers  
Charles Chandler  
John Rodgers  
Selvon Rodgers  
Lawrence Wartmann, Printer.

Peter Sites  
Bray H. Graham  
Edward Helms  
O. Shacklett  
John Robt Furr  
Jacob B. Furr  
J. S. Lake  
S. M. Hunter  
George Helm  
Frederick Newman  
Darius M. P.  
Philip Hoyer  
Samuel Kane  
William Hinespring  
Lavinia S. Hinespring

John Collins  
Peter Brown Junior  
Thomas ~~Beane~~  
John Albright  
Philip Deal

Samuel Gablet  
Jacob W<sup>h</sup> Ficks  
Francis Divin  
William ~~Wells~~

Wm Newman Joseph ~~Blaine~~  
The petition of Wm  
Newman brother a freeman  
of colour praying  
that a law may pass  
permitting him to  
remain in the city  
of Rochester

Dec. 23<sup>d</sup> 1829  
ref. to Ct. of J.

Bill drawn

1830 Jan 13. Newark

Wm Strother's  
Pet: ~~to~~

Rockingham County December 4<sup>th</sup> 1829

Understanding that William Stebbins  
(alias Billy Carpenter) a free man of colour,  
intends petitioning the Legislature for leave  
to remain in this county, I take pleasure  
in saying that I have known him for  
several years, he has frequently worked for  
me, and I believe him to be an honest,  
industrious, and inoffensive man, in my  
opinion his remaining in this county would  
be no injury to society in any manner whatever  
he has a wife who is as slave, and I should  
be much gratified, if he can be permitted  
to remain with her.

Wm Smith

Judge P. Smith  
Certificate