

F 44

Petition of
Thos. B. Purcell
In authority to
Emancipate
Matisa, who is a

~~_____~~

Adopted

~~_____~~

RS

[Faint vertical text on the left margin, possibly bleed-through or a separate column of notes.]

To the honorable the Judge of the Parish
of West Hill in the State of Virginia
The petitioners of Thomas R. Purcell of
said Parish respectfully

Sheweth
That he is the owner of three
young slaves named Matilda aged
about seven years, John aged about
five years and Edward aged about 18
months, that they are natives of this
State born of the same mother, who
is now a free woman of good conduct
and behavior.

Sheweth that your petitioners is desirous
of emancipating the said three slaves
and his motives for doing so are that
their mother is free, they are very bright
melancholy or gutturous, and petitioners
is desirous to educate them and give them
a trade and thereby to better their condition
both as relates to themselves and to
society.

Petitioners would further represent that
he is not indebted for any sum of money
that he is not able to pay from other
resources and means
Petitioners therefore pray that your
honor will take into consideration the
subject of this petition, that you will
authorize petitioners to emancipate the
said Matilda, John & Edward, that in

in pursuance of the act of assembly for such
cases made & provided your honor would
bring this petition before the Police Jury
at its next meeting for their advice &
consent & authority, and finally that
in pursuance of law, to all of its terms
and conditions petitioners is ready to comply,
they may be fully & legally authorized
to execute the same without
John Edward

and as in duty will ever remain
Thos. R. Burnell
Mayor & Recorder
1852

Let the prayer of Petitioners be granted; and let this
Petition be submitted to the Police Jury of this Parish at
their next meeting

~~Done~~ ~~by~~ ~~the~~ ~~privilege~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~
~~parish of~~ ~~St. James~~ ~~in~~
Shordam

Parish Judge and
Official President of the
Police Jury

~~Done~~ ~~at~~ ~~the~~ ~~city~~ ~~of~~ ~~St. Louis~~ ~~the~~ ~~11th~~ ~~day~~ ~~of~~ ~~July~~ ~~1852~~
~~in~~ ~~the~~ ~~presence~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~Police~~ ~~Jury~~ ~~of~~ ~~the~~ ~~Parish~~ ~~of~~ ~~St. Louis~~

That it is the unanimous opinion of the Police
Jury of the Parish of St. Louis