

Jefferson County Circuit Court  
Case Files - Civil  
August 1837

Box 3 Folder 23

Celeste, by next friend

Bartibeau, Pierre

vs.

Chaurin, Lefrenier, adm.

Chevalier, Helen

Tayon, Charles

Chouteau, Herte, St, etal

Trespass, assault and battery, false imprisonment

Freedom suit; other defendants Auguste Chouteau, St,  
Pierre Chouteau, St, Leguest Chouteau, Bartholomew  
Berthold, Pelagie Berthold, Joseph Tayon, Francis  
Tayon, Terrace Valle; petition names Celeste's children  
Sophie, Antoine, Paul, Auguste, and Sophie's children  
Edward, William; verdict for plaintiff; new trial  
and change of venue to Jefferson County from St.  
Louis 1837; Celeste daughter of free Indian  
woman named Scypion claimed by Joseph Tayon; plaintiffs  
dropped prosecution against all but Chaurin, 1826

To the Honorable the Circuit Court of St Louis  
County

The Petitioner Celeste for her self and children and grand children, who are free persons of color, namely Sophie, Antoine, Paul and Auguste the daughter and sons of the said Celeste, and Edward and William the children of Sophie, and the Grand children of the said Celeste, Respectfully represents that in the life time of one Joseph Joyon (who is now dead) who was an Inhabitant of the Town of St Louis in the late province of upper Louisiana now State of Missouri, the said Joseph was possessed of a certain free Indian woman named Scypion, who is the mother of your Petitioner Celeste, and that the said Scypion was claimed by the said Joseph as a slave, but without the least color of right or justice, because your Petitioner says the said Scypion was an Indian woman and was free, according to the laws and usages of the Spanish Government in upper Louisiana, and according to the laws of the United States, as your petitioner Celeste is informed and verily believes; And your <sup>said</sup> Petitioner ~~represents~~ Celeste further represents, that she is the daughter of the said Scypion, and that the said Sophie, Antoine, Paul and Auguste are the children of your Petitioner Celeste, and that Edward & William are the children of the said Sophie, and the Grand children of your Petitioner Celeste. And your Petitioners Represents that they are claimed as slaves by the Representatives and heirs of Madame Helen Chevallier deceased, as slaves belonging to the Estate of the said Helen Chevallier, and by the Administrator of said Helen. And your petitioner Celeste further represents that she is informed and believes, that Leprieur Chevallier is the administrator of the said Helen Chevallier. And your petitioners Represent that they are actually held in slavery by the said Leprieur Chevallier, deprived of their natural freedom, and are subjected entirely to his will and controul. Wherefore your Petitioners Pray that they may be

Permitted to bring their actions in this Court, against the  
said Leprieur Chouvin, administrator as aforesaid  
and against all <sup>or any of the</sup> heirs and legal Representatives of the  
said Helen Chouvier, for the recovery of their freedom  
thus unjustly withheld from them, and that your  
Petitioners may be permitted to sue as poor persons  
and your petitioners will ever Pray  
Celeste <sup>her</sup> X  
for self & children

State of Missouri }  
County of St Louis } Personally appeared before me  
the undersigned a Justice of the  
Peace within and for the County of St Louis, the above  
named Petitioner Celeste, who being sworn by me  
on her corporal oath saith, that the facts stated are  
her own knowledge, and in the above petition  
are true, and those stated on the information of  
others, she believes are true, according to her belief  
and further saith not.

Celeste <sup>her</sup> X  
mark

Sworn to and subscribed  
this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 1825

Peter Ferguson  
Justice of the Peace  
County of St Louis  
State of Missouri

274

Portion of whole £3  
for self and  
Sophie, the two, Paul  
Auguste, Edward &  
William, to be present  
to to see for freedom

25- 2  
16- 3  
9- 3  
8- 3  
29-  
1-  
1-  
3-  
4-  
5-

state of missouri } B. In the Circuit Court, July  
County of St Louis } 1825

Teste a woman of color, who is permitted by the  
court to sue as a poor person, by Pierre Barthelemy  
her next friend, by her attorneys Harris Gamble  
and McGirk, assigned as counsel by said court  
Complains of Lefrancis Chouvin, Administrator  
of all and singular the goods and chattels, lands  
tenements and effects which were of the estate of Helen  
Chevallier, deceased, <sup>who died intestate,</sup> Charles Tayan, Pierre Chautau  
senr, Auguste Chautau jr, Pierre Chautau  
jr Liguist Chautau, Bartholomew Berthold and  
Pelagie Berthold his wife, Joseph Tayan, Francis  
Tayan and Terrace Valle of a plea of trespass  
For that the said defendants heretofore, to wit, on  
the first day of January in the year of our Lord  
one thousand eight hundred and twenty five,  
with force and arms at the County of St Louis  
an assault did ~~make~~ upon the body of the said  
Teste, and then and there beat bruised and  
ill treated her the said Teste, and then and  
there imprisoned her the said Teste, and kept  
and detained her in prison there against her  
will, without any reasonable or probable cause  
whatever, and have ever since kept & detained  
her in prison, and do still keep and detain  
her in prison, against her will without any  
reasonable or probable cause contrary to the  
laws of this State, And the said defendants other  
wrongs then and there did to the said Teste  
against the peace of the State, wherefore the said  
Teste says she is injured by the said defendants  
and has sustained damage to the amount of  
five hundred dollars, and therefore she sues

Harris Gamble & McGirk  
Atty's for plff

Wm  
Wentworth

3 Benthol

Service  
4 men lists  
\$7.00  
20.00

Adatto

24  
Harr

Deinver's Behaviour and  
Attitude.

To the Clerk

This is an action of the  
prob. of parent & Balthus.  
and father informant  
of the & Sunday  
for children's.

Starr, Samuel & Co.  
Atty. v. L.

Filed 2nd June 1875  
A. Hamilton Clerk

Handke etc

Checked from north to west  
1835 - \$18.33  
pays for book 2.10

The State of Missouri

County of St. Louis ss.

To the Sheriff of said County Greeting:

We command you to summon Leferriere Chouteau Administrator of all and singular the goods and chattels Credits Monies and effects which were of the Estate of Helen Chevallier deceased who died intestate. Charles Tagon, Pierre Chouteau Senr Auguste Chouteau Sr. Pierre Chouteau Jr. Leguest Chouteau, Bartholomew Berthold and Pelagie Berthold his wife Joseph Tagon, Francis Tagon and Senace Valle that they be and appear before the Judge of our Circuit Court at the next term thereof to be held at the City of St. Louis within and for the County of St. Louis on the fourth Monday in July next then and there to answer unto Celeste a free woman of color who is permitted by the Court to sue by Pierre Baribeau her next friend as a poor person of a plea of trespass to the damage of said plaintiff of five hundred dollars. and bade you then then this writ.

Witness Archibald Gamble clerk of our said Court at Office  
this Second day of June 1825

Archibald Gamble clerk

No 23 -  
In the Circuit Court  
July term 1825

Celeste  
vs.  
Sefrenier Chouvin  
and others

By the within is a Counterpart of the  
writ issued to the Sheriff of St.  
Louis County a 25 June 1825  
Archibald Gamble Clerk -

J. Charles

Book of Dr. Taylor August 4-260 - Order for Dr. Venable 41-439 - Remittance as to form & content - August 1-461 - 461  
me for 47-461

County of Saint Louis Id.

The State of Missouri

To the Sheriff of the County of Saint Charles

Greeting

We Command you to summon Charles Tagon, Joseph Tagon, Francois Tagon and  
Tenace Valley, impleaded with Sefrenier Chouvin Administrator of all and singular  
the goods and chattels, Credits monies and effects which were of the Estate of Helen Cheval-  
-ier deceased who died intestate. Pierre Chouteau Senior, Auguste Chouteau Junior Pierre  
Chouteau Jr. Lequest Chouteau Bartholomew Berthold and Pelagie Berthold his wife,  
that they be and appear before the Judge of our Circuit Court at the next term thereof to  
be holden at the City of St. Louis, within and for the County of St. Louis on the fourth  
Monday in July next then and there to answer unto Celeste a free woman of color who  
is permitted by the Court to sue by Pierre Banibeau her next friend as a poor person  
of a plea of trespass, to the damage of said plaintiff of five hundred dollars, and  
have you then return this writ.

Witness Archibald Gamble Clerk of our said  
Court at Office this second day of June One  
thousand eight hundred and twenty five  
Archibald Gamble Clerk

Executed this writ on the within named Joseph Tayan and  
Tennaser Valle by reading it to them in the Township of  
St Charles this 14<sup>th</sup> June 1825 and on Charles Tayan in the  
Township of St Charles on the 15<sup>th</sup> June 1825 by reading it to him

the within named Francis Tayan is not found in

My County this 11<sup>th</sup> Day of July 1825

Shenpps Fees \$3.50

J. L. Mills Sheriff

St Charles City Mo



John - Lewis & Co

as

Clark

Wm. J. Wm

John - Lewis & Co

as

Clark

State of Missouri,

COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS, SCT.

TO THE SHERIFF OF *St. Louis* COUNTY...GREETING:  
YOU are hereby commanded to SUMMON *Hene* *Carl Dettin* *John Parada*

that setting aside all manner of excuse and delay *he* be and appear in proper person before the Judge of our Circuit Court,  
on the *3<sup>rd</sup>* day of *March* at the City of St. Louis, then and there to testify and the truth to  
say in a certain matter of controversy, now pending in our said court, wherein *Cecilia* *9*

plaintiff, and *a* *Chancin* *admir*  
defendant, on the part of the *plaintiff* and have you then there this writ,

WITNESS ARCHIBALD GAMBLE, Clerk of our said Circuit Court, at the City  
of St. Louis, this *11<sup>th</sup>* day of *March* in the year of our Lord,  
one thousand eight hundred and twenty *ten*

*Archibald*

Clerk, C. C.

Executed the within Sub in the within  
 named Marie Gab Bodier in the townships  
 and County of St Charles on the 15<sup>th</sup> March 1826  
 and on Louis Bonade in the townships and County  
 of St Charles by reading it to them respectively  
 on the 20<sup>th</sup> March 1826  
 shenepps fees \$1.00

J. L. Mill Shenepp  
 of St Charles County

Louis March 1826

Collect  
 shenepps

of 6 hincous white  
 Louis Bonade

for

Rene Gal Bodier

Louis Bonade

for self

March 3<sup>rd</sup> 1826

1733 Bonade is an old man  
 of his of Louis Bonade

COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS, St.  
**State of Missouri,**

TO THE SHERIFF OF Saint Louis: COUNTY....GREETING:

YOU are hereby commanded to SUMMON *Ma<sup>r</sup>. Lealto Bergier Regis Wagner*  
*Baptiste Lemini, John B. Chatterton Francisco Marshalle*  
*Madame Marshalle Louis Lamendo, Chasmo, David Le Bond*

that setting aside all manner of excuse and delay, (he) be and appear in proper person before the Judge of our Circuit Court, on the *19<sup>th</sup>* day of *December* at the City of St. Louis, then and there to testify and the truth to say in a certain matter of controversy, now pending in our said court, wherein

*Celeste - ad* plaintiff, and

*I Chauvin ad* defendant, on the part of the

and have you then there this writ.

*Counting*  
**WITNESS, ARCHIBALD GAMBLE,** Clerk of our said Circuit Court, at

the City of St. Louis, this *11* day of *December*

in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and twenty *six*

*Archibald* Clerk C. C.

Nov<sup>r</sup> Term 1826

Balance

L. J. Charvillat Adm<sup>r</sup>  
& others

229  
229

Spa for

+ M<sup>de</sup> Josette Berquier  
+ Regis Vapsier  
+ Baptiste Domini  
+ John B. Chatterton  
+ M<sup>rs</sup> Monchall  
+ M<sup>de</sup> Monchall  
+ Louis Lamond  
+ M<sup>de</sup> Alexis La Lande

for self 12<sup>th</sup> Dec.

Executed this writ on Regis Vapsier - Baptiste Domini -  
Francis Marshal - Madam Marshal - Alexis La Lande  
Dec<sup>r</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> - Josette Berquier - Louis Lamond. on J. B.  
Chatterton ~~at 6 o'clock~~ Dec<sup>r</sup> 20. 1826.  
Sum 4.00  
~~to Regis Vapsier~~ 10<sup>4</sup>/<sub>2</sub>  
~~9.50~~

R. Simpson R<sup>sk</sup>

County of St Louis ss

The State of Missouri

To the Sheriff of said County Greeting

You are hereby commanded to summon Eighteen Good and lawful men of your County That they be and appear before our Circuit Court on Wednesday The Thirteenth instant at the Court House in the City of St Louis at the hour of Ten - O'clock in the Forenoon <sup>in the case of Celeste vs. Chevalier's Administrators and others -</sup> of that day then and there to serve as Jurors, and have you then there This writ

Witness Archibald Gamble Clerk of  
our said Court at Office this Twelfth  
Day of December in the Year One  
Thousand Eight Hundred and Twenty  
Six Archibald Gamble Clerk

Edward Chapin, Ch<sup>d</sup> 1  
 David Page, Ch<sup>d</sup> 2  
 Thomas Bacon Ex<sup>d</sup> 3  
~~Matthew Jones~~  
 Eliahu Radfield - 5  
 James Thomas - 6  
 Wm L Long V - 7 X  
 Wm W Coke Ex<sup>d</sup> 8  
 Wm Hooper - 9  
 John W Barber - 10  
 John Merry Ex<sup>d</sup> 11  
 John Coleburn Ex<sup>d</sup> 12  
 Edward Harrington 13 X  
 Thomas Andrews Ex<sup>d</sup> 14  
 Isaac A Lettens Ex<sup>d</sup> 15  
 Cheekberry Redman 16  
 Richard Dunlavy Ex<sup>d</sup> 17  
 John Alexander Ex<sup>d</sup> 18  
 David W Hill Ex<sup>d</sup>  
 Jacob Lightner Ex<sup>d</sup>

betate

mg

14 Observations ad<sup>d</sup>

to the

Special Vermin

facies

Executes this writ and herewith return the  
names of eighteen good & lawful men

Thompson Hk

Fee \$4-00

State of Missouri,

COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS, Set.

TO THE SHERIFF OF the City

COUNTY...GREETING:

YOU are hereby commanded to SUMMON

*James H. Campbell*  
*Thompson our Daughters*

that setting aside all manner of excuse and delay, ~~he~~ be and appear in proper person before the Judge of our Circuit Court, ~~on the~~ *on the* ~~day of~~

at the City of St. Louis, then and there

to testify and the truth to say in a certain matter of controversy, now pending in our said court, wherein

*Dec 20* plaintiff, and

*The St. Louis & Northern Pacific R.R. Co.* on the part of the  
~~defendant~~ and have you then there this writ.

WITNESS, ARCHIBALD GAMBLE, Clerk of our said Circuit Court, at

the City of St. Louis, this *13th* day of *Dec*

in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and twenty *dec*

*Archibald Gamble* Clerk C. C.

Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> Dec 1826

Belleville

W<sup>m</sup>

Lehigh River and

the River of the

Lehigh River

Lehigh River

W<sup>m</sup>

Executed this writ on Thompson & Engle Dec  
13. 1826 and W. Garner Dec 20. 1826

Wm. H. H. H.

Wm. H. H.

STATE OF MISSOURI, COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS, Sct.

TO THE SHERIFF OF Saint Louis' COUNTY....GREETING:

YOU are hereby commanded to SUMMON *John B. Lucas, (Mad Jannel Hunt*  
*Mad Margate Cheeann, alias Berrens*

that setting aside all manner of excuse and delay, ( he<sup>y</sup> be and appear in proper person before the Judge of our Circuit Court, on the *twelfth* day of *December* at the City of St. Louis, then and there to testify and the truth to say in a certain matter of controversy, now pending in our said court, wherein

*Calotte* is plaintiff, and  
*S. Kaurvin* is defendant, on the part of the  
and have you then there this writ.

WITNESS, ARCHIBALD GAMBLE, Clerk of our said Circuit Court, at  
the City of St. Louis, this *19th* day of *December*  
in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and twenty *seven*  
*Archibald Gamble* Clerk C. C.

Executed this writ on Jannet Hunt Dec<sup>r</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> - on John  
B. C. Lucas Dec<sup>r</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> - Mad<sup>m</sup> M. Revire Dec<sup>r</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> 1824

Service \$1.50

J. J. Simonds & D<sup>r</sup> Shiff

Nov<sup>r</sup> 2<sup>nd</sup> 1826

Celeste

et

L. L. Chauvin

Subpoena for

+ Jno B. C. Lucas.

+ Mad Jannet Hunt

+ Made Margate Caece.

+ me alias, Revire

for plaintiff

12<sup>th</sup> December 1826,

County of St. Louis  
The State of Missouri

To the Sheriff of St. Louis County Greeting

We command you to summon eighteen  
good & lawful men of your County that they be and  
appear before our Circuit Court now in session  
at the City of St. Louis, on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of this  
instant month at ten o'clock in the morning  
of said day then & there to serve as jurors in a  
case between ~~the~~ testis a woman of colour  
Plaintiff & Benjamin Chavrin ad & of  
Alex. Chevalier & others defendants. And  
have you then & there this writ with  
a panel of the jury aforesaid endorsed  
thereon.

Witness Archibald Gamble Clerk  
of our said Court this 14<sup>th</sup> day  
of December 1826

Archibald Gamble Clerk

Wharton, Roston 1-X  
 Wm McGowan 2-X  
 Wm Calvert 3-X  
 Saml Denny 4-X  
 Chubbrey Redman 5-X  
 Benjamin Lawrence 6-X  
 Elroy & Rose 7-3  
 Josiah Miles - 8-4  
 William Thomas 9-5  
 James Wingfield 10-6  
 Adam Martin Jr. 11-7  
 David Martin Jr. 12-8  
 Wm Robinson - 13-8  
 John S Brown 14-9  
 Lewis Hume - 15-X  
 Michael Castillo 16-10  
 John Mulhall - 17-11  
 James Barry 18-12

Exeter

The 2nd of Heler  
 Churahintothas

Special Varnes

Executed this writ & herewith  
 return the names of 18 good &  
 Lawfull men  
 Robinson s/s

COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS, Sct.  
STATE OF MISSOURI,

TO THE SHERIFF OF St. Louis

COUNTY...GREETING:

YOU are hereby commanded to SUMMON Joseph W. Garner and Thompson

Strong

that setting aside all manner of excuse and delay, they be and appear in proper person before the Judge of our Circuit Court, ~~on the~~ *for the month of* ~~day of~~ at the City of St. Louis, then and there to testify and the truth to say in a certain matter of controversy, now pending in our said court, wherein Celeste

*Chavrin* *admt. of M. Chevrolet* is ——— is plaintiff, and *Septimie*  
*Plantiff* defendant, on the part of the  
and have you then there this writ.

WITNESS, ARCHIBALD GAMBLE, Clerk of our said Circuit Court, at  
the City of St. Louis, this 27<sup>th</sup> day of December  
in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and twenty six

*Archibald Gamble* Clerk C. C.

Nov 24 1826

Celeste

to

Dechaunin adm of

A. Gervais -

for W. Garrison &

Th. Douglass

Exceeded the word on Thompson Douglass & W. Garrison  
Dec 21. 1826

more \$1.

Thompson & H

COUNTY OF ST. LOUIS, Sct.

State of Missouri,

TO THE SHERIFF OF St. Louis

COUNTY...GREETING:

YOU are hereby commanded to SUMMON Joseph W. Garner and Thompson

Along with

that setting aside all manner of excuse and delay, / he; be and appear in proper person before the Judge of our Circuit Court, ~~on the~~ *forthwith* day of ——— at the City of St. Louis, then and there to testify and the truth to say in a certain matter of controversy, now pending in our said court, wherein *Celeste*

*Chavrin Adams of St. Charles is* ——— *is* plaintiff, and *Leptenie* *Plaintiff* defendant, on the part of the and have you then there this writ.

WITNESS, ARCHIBALD GAMBLE, Clerk of our said Circuit Court, at

the City of St. Louis, this *21<sup>st</sup>* day of *December*

in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and twenty *28*

*Archibald Gamble* Clerk C. C.

Nov<sup>ry</sup> Term 1826

Celeste

10

Edmund Adm<sup>of</sup>

A. Chervier -

for W. Garner &

Th. Douglass

Exhibited the writ on Thompson Douglass & W. Garner  
Dec<sup>r</sup> 21. 1826

have a \$1.

Thompson & H

THE STATE OF MISSOURI, }  
County of St. Louis. }  
} sct.

To the Sheriff of said county—GREETING:

We command you to attach *Thompson Langstaffe*  
if *he* may be found within your bailiwick, and bring *him* forthwith  
before the judge of our circuit court now sitting at the town of St. Louis,  
within and for the county of St. Louis, then there to answer unto the State  
of Missouri, touching a certain contempt by *him* committed, in not at-  
tending as a witness in a case of *Rebecca v. Amekothere*  
plaintiff and *depreneur* defendant. *Amekothere*  
defendant on the part of the *Plaintiff* after being legally  
summoned by the sheriff of the said county, and have you then there this  
writ.

WITNESS *Richard G. Smith* clerk of our  
said court, at the town of St. Louis, this *21st*  
day of *Dec* in the year of our Lord one thou-  
sand eight hundred and *thirty*, and of our inde-  
pendence the *Archibald G. Smith* clerk

Nov 21 1826

Chester

27

De Francis Brown, teller

for Thompson & Douglass

Executed this warrant & have the body  
of Thompson & Douglass in open court  
Dec. 21. 1826.

Thompson & Douglass

since \$1.00

Exhibit

The receipt record of At Home county

Josephine Schaeffer  
Daughter of John Schaeffer

Do my fees for interviewing the testimony of  
presumptive or the part of the

monthly at fifty cents each - - - - -

\$ 3. 00

Do for the interviewing the testimony of one witness

\$ 0. 50

on the part of the defendant - - - - -

\$ 3. 00

drawn to in open court

December 1886

J. H. Babcock

By certificate of the

Celeste

vs

Chauvin. Adm<sup>r</sup> of Chartraw

Interpreters fees \$ 3

L. A. Labcaume &

Celeste

vs

Chauvin

What a name of war  
v  
Whom's name of God  
Whom's

Whom's name is the  
Whom's name is the following

1 The book is a volume  
2 The book is a volume

W. H. G.

Debate

shown are

{ *Agro Sapienter* a witness in  
this case, claims 3 days attendance, \$1.00

*Charles*

— miles travel, at five cents per mile, —

The above named *Agro Sapienter* being sworn, says, that he was summoned in the above case on the part of the *Wentworth*, and attended *three* days at the *Warrenton* term, 1826; and that he has to travel the number of miles above charged, in attend-

ing Court; and that he has not claimed attendance as witness in any other case during the same time.

Sworn to and subscribed, before me, *22nd*  
day of *December* 1826.

CLERK.

*Spauld*

*Agro Sapienter*

Clerico

no

Chevalier de Adnet

Regis Vapeur \$1.50

Clerico  
no  
Chevalier de Adnet

*Debit*

*Shorn*

784

*ad*

} *Francis Marshall* a witness in  
this case, claims

*3*

days attendance, \$1.50

*Shorn*

*30* miles travel, at five cents per mile,

~~\$3.00~~  
\$1.50

The above named *Francis Marshall* being sworn, says, that he was summoned in the above case, on the part of the *Marshall*, and attended *three* days at the *Barn*

term, 1826; and that he has to travel the number of miles above charged, in attend-

ing Court; and that he has not claimed attendance as witness in any other case during the same time.

Sworn to and subscribed, before me,

*John*

CLERK.

day of *Jan* 1826

1826

} *Francis Marshall*  
*Marshall*

Certe  
vs  
Chevalier's & Son<sup>r</sup>

<sup>14</sup> Francis Marshal \$3.00

Certe  
vs  
Chevalier & Son

*Belite*

vs.

*Cherrie act. of*

*John B. Chatterton*

a witness in

*Cherrie*

12 miles travel, at five cents per mile,

60

The above named *John B. Chatterton* being sworn, says, that he was summoned in the

above case on the part of the *Plaintiff*, and attended *three* days at the *St. Louis*

term, 1826; and that he has to travel the number of miles above charged, in attend-

ing Court; and that he has not claimed attendance as witness in any other case during the same time.

Sworn to and subscribed, before me, *James McEnroe*

day of *Sept*

1826.

*John B. Chatterton*

*marks*

Clerk.

*James McEnroe*

Cleste  
vs  
Chauvin Adm of Chevalier

John B Chatillon \$2<sup>00</sup>10

Cleste  
vs  
Chauvin Adm of  
Chevalier

De la Roche

28.  
Chorn and Hecsten

*Madam Justice Macinnis* a witness in  
this case, claims  
two days attendance, \$1-

|    |                                       |     |                            |
|----|---------------------------------------|-----|----------------------------|
| 22 |                                       |     |                            |
| 30 | { this case, claims                   | 220 | days attendance, \$ 1 - 00 |
|    | miles travel, at five cents per mile, |     |                            |
|    |                                       |     | <u>1 - 50</u>              |
|    |                                       |     | 2 - 50                     |

$$\frac{25.2}{1.52}$$

25-24

The above named *Mad Mathias Macaune* being sworn, says, that he was summoned in the above case on the part of the *Deputies*, and attended *two* days at the *Assizes* term, 1826; and that he has to travel the number of miles above charged, in attend-

Sworn to and subscribed, before me, *the 23<sup>rd</sup>*  
day of *December* 1886

CLERK.

her  
Mad. Beckett & Daughters  
New York

Archiebald Lamont

Celerte  
<sup>no</sup>  
Chauvin Adm<sup>r</sup> of A. Chervelier

Madame Baptiste Baccarne

\$2.50

Bellevue

208.

John A. Chevalier

} } }  
John A. Chevalier a witness in  
this case, claims five days attendance, \$1.00

miles travel, at five cents per mile,

The above named John A. Chevalier being sworn, says, that he was summoned in the above case, on the part of the Plaintiff, and attended five days at the Court

term, 1826; and that he has to travel the number of miles above charged, in attend-

ing Court, and that he has not claimed attendance as witness in any other case during the same time.

Sworn to and subscribed, before me, this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of December 1826

day of December 1826

CLERK.

Archibald Campbell

} } }  
John A. Chevalier  
Indn

Celeste  
<sup>no</sup>  
M<sup>re</sup> Chevalier's Adm<sup>t</sup>

Louis Lemorice \$1.00

THE STATE OF MISSOURI,

To the Constable of *Adair's* Township, in the County of *Adair's* Greeting:

We command you to summon

*John McLucas and Asaph*

that all excuses and delays being set aside *they* personally be and appear before the ~~the~~ *County Court* ~~at the~~ *of the County* ~~at the~~ *with* ~~designated, a Justice of the Peace~~ within and for the County ~~at the~~ *at the* on the *with*

day of *July* at his office, ~~in the~~

township of *Mercur* to testify on the trial of a case wherein *Geoffe* *plaintiff* and *defendants*, on the part of the *plaintiff* *showing* *that* *they* *are* *not* *to* *fail* *at* *their* *peril*; and have you then there this writ.

Given under my hand, this

day of

A. D. 1836

JUSTICE OF THE PEACE.

State of Missouri 3d Janice Presby made out the  
County of Lewis the within summons by  
me and the same to Baptiste Thomas in the  
County of Lewis this 5th July 1838  
Dwornk and subscribed  
this 5th July 1838

Attest J. S.

Attest J. S.

Petition

State of Missouri }  
County of St Louis } Be it remembered that heretofore to wit on the  
tenth day of May in the year eighteen hundred and twenty five  
Celeste a woman of color made her petition to the Circuit Court for  
the county of St Louis, which petition is in the words and figures follow-  
ing to wit - " To the Honorable the Circuit Court of St Louis County  
The petition of Celeste for herself and children and grand children  
who are free persons of color, Namely Sophie, Antoine, Paul and Au-  
guste the daughter and sons of the said Celeste, and Edward and  
William the children of Sophie, and the grand children of the said  
Celeste, Respectfully represents that in the lifetime of one Joseph  
Tayon (who is now dead) who was an inhabitant of the Town of  
St Louis in the late province of Upper Louisiana, now state of Missou-  
ri, the said Joseph was possessed of a certain free Indian woman named  
Scypion, who is the mother of your petitioner Celeste and that the said  
Scypion <sup>was claimed</sup> by the said Joseph as a slave but without the least color of  
right or Justice, because your petitioner says the said Scypion was  
an Indian woman and was free, according to the laws and usages  
of the Spanish Government in upper Louisiana and according to  
the laws of the United States, as your petitioner Celeste is informed  
and verily believes - And your said Petitioner Celeste further represents  
that she is the daughter of the said Scypion and that the said Sophie  
Antoine, Paul & Auguste are the children of your petitioner Celeste  
and that Edward and William are the children of the said Sophie  
and the Grand children of your Petitioner Celeste  
And your Petitioners represent that they are claimed as slaves  
by the representatives and heirs of Madame Helen Chevalier deced-  
ed, as slaves belonging to the estate of the said Helen Chevalier  
and by the Administrator of said Helen - And your petitioner Ce-  
leste that she is informed and believes, that Seprenier Chauvin  
is the administrator of the said Helen - And your petitioners  
Represent that they are actually held in slavery by the said  
Seprenier Chauvin, deprived of their natural freedom and are  
subjected entirely to his will and control - Wherefore your Pe-  
titioners pray that they may be permitted to bring their actions  
in this court, against the said Seprenier Chauvin, administra-

Affidavit

tor as aforesaid and against all or any of the heirs and legal representatives of the said Helen Chevallier, for the recovery of their freedom thus unjustly withheld from them and that your Petitioners may be permitted to sue as poor persons and your Petitioners will ever pray &c - Celeste <sup>her</sup> ~~mark~~ for self & children - Teste Peter Ferguson  
"State of Missouri, County of St Louis - ss - Personally appeared before me the undersigned a Justice of the Peace within and for the county of St Louis, the above named Petitioner Celeste, who being sworn by me on her corporal oath saith, that the facts stated on her own knowledge, in the above petition are true, and those stated on the information of others she believes are true, according to her belief and farther saith not - Celeste <sup>for</sup> ~~mark~~ Sworn to and Subscribed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of May 1825 - Peter Ferguson Justice of the Peace, County St Louis State of Missouri" And afterwards to wit on the nineteenth day of May in the year <sup>last</sup> aforesaid the following proceeding ~~was~~ were had, in the said Circuit Court, in said cause to wit - "Celeste and her children and grand children vs - Seprenier & Chauvin Admin<sup>r</sup> of St Chevalier dec<sup>d</sup> Isaac C. McKim presents here to the court the petition of Celeste for herself and her children and Grand Children namely Sophia, Antoine, Paul, Auguste praying that she may be permitted to institute suit against Seprenier & Chauvin Administrators of Helen Chevalier deceased and against all or any of the legal representatives of the said Helen Chevalier for establishing her right and the right of her said children and grand children to freedom and that they may be permitted to sue as poor persons - Thereupon the court permit the said petitioners to sue as aforesaid and assign Isaac C. McKim Hamilton R. Gamble and Robert P. Farris as their counsel & direct that an action of assault and battery be commenced against the said defendants in the name of the said petitioners by their next friend - And it is ordered by the court that the said defendants permit the said plaintiffs to have a reasonable liberty of attending their counsel and the court when occasion may require it and that the said petitioners shall not be taken or removed out of the jurisdiction of this court or be subject to any severity of treatment on account of their said applica-

Order

tion for freedom" Whereupon on the nineteenth day of June fol-  
lowing in the said last mentioned year the said Celeste by her at-  
torneys filed in the office of the clerk of said Court, her declaration in  
Declaration - the words and figures following to wit "State of Missouri Coun-  
ty of St Louis ss - In the Circuit Court, July Term 1825 - Celeste a  
woman of color, who is permitted by the court to sue <sup>as a person</sup> by Pierre Barri-  
her next friend, by her attorneys Farris, Gamble & M'Girk, assigned as  
counsel by said Court complains of Sefrenier Chouvin, Administrator  
of all and singular the goods and chattels, credits monies and effects  
which were of the estate of Helen Chevallier deceased who died in-  
testate, Charles Tagon, Pierre Chouteau Senr Auguste Chouteau Jr  
Pierre Chouteau Sr Leguist Chouteau Bartholomew Berthold and  
Pelagie Berthold his wife, Joseph Tagon, Francis Tagon and Terrace  
Vallé of a plea of trespass - For that the said defendants hereto-  
fore, to wit, on the first day of January in the year of our Lord  
one thousand eight hundred and twenty five with force and arms  
at the County of St Louis an assault did make upon the body  
of the said Celeste, and then and there beat bruised and ill treated  
her the said Celeste, and then and there imprisoned her the said  
Celeste and kept and detained her in prison there against her  
will, without any reasonable or probable cause whatsoever and  
have ever since kept and detained her in prison and still do keep and  
detain her in prison against her will without any reasonable or  
probable cause contrary to the laws of this State - And the said de-  
fendants other wrongs then and there did to the said Celeste against  
the peace of the State wherefore the said Celeste says she is  
injured by the said ~~defendants~~ defendants and has sustained damage  
to the amount of five hundred dollars, and therefore she sues ~~vs~~  
Farris, Gamble & M'Girk, Attys for plff -" Whereupon the follow-  
ing summons issued from the Office of the said Clerk to wit

Summons "County of St Louis ss - The State of Missouri - To the Sheriff of the  
said County Greeting - We command you to summon Sefrenier Chau-  
vin Administrator of all and singular the goods and chattels credits  
monies and effects which were of the Estate of Helen Chevallier deces-  
ed who died intestate, Charles Tagon, Pierre Chouteau Senr Auguste  
Chouteau Jr Pierre Chouteau Sr Leguist Chouteau, Bartholomew  
Berthold and Pelagie Berthold his wife, Joseph Tagon, Francis

Return

Summons to  
St Charles

Tayon and Terrace Valle that they be and appear before the Judge of our Circuit Court at the next term thereof to be held at the city of St Louis within and for the county of St Louis on the fourth Monday of July next then and there to answer unto Celeste a free woman of color who is permitted by the court to sue by Pierre Barribeau her next friend as a poor person of a plea of trespass to the damage of said plaintiff of five hundred dollars, and have you then there this writ (LS) Witness Archibald Gamble clerk of our said court at office this second day of June 1825 = Archibald Gamble Clerk = Upon which said writ of summons was endorsed the following Sheriff's return to wit = "Executed this writ on Bartholomew Berthold & Pelagie his wife June 11<sup>th</sup> 1825 in the city of St Louis by their acknowledgment above - on Lafrenier Chauvin June 10<sup>th</sup> at his place of residence on Pierre Chouteau Sen<sup>r</sup> Pierre Chouteau Jr & Legist Chouteau on the 14<sup>th</sup> & on August Chouteau Jr on the 23<sup>d</sup> of the same month in the City of St Louis by giving the writ and declaration to them to read and their acknowledging the service thereof = Charles Tayon Joseph Tayon, Francois Tayon & Terrace Valle not found in my county July 9<sup>th</sup> 1825 = John R Walker Sheriff by Jno Simonds D<sup>y</sup> Shff = " And a counterpart of said writ was also issued and directed to the Sheriff of St Charles County which is in the words and figures following to wit = "County of St Louis ss = The State of Missouri, To the Sheriff of the County of St Charles Greeting = We command you to summon Charles Tayon, Joseph Tayon and Terrace Valle impleaded with Lafrenier Chauvin Administrator of all and singular the goods and Chattels credits monies and effects which were of the effects Estate of Helen Chevallier deceased who died intestate, Pierre Chouteau Senior, Auguste Chouteau Junior Pierre Chouteau Jr Legist Chouteau Bartholomew Berthold and Pelagie Berthold his wife, that they be and appear before the Judge of our Circuit Court at the next term thereof to be held at the City of St Louis, within and for the county of St Louis on the fourth Monday in July next then and there to answer unto Celeste a free woman of Color who is permitted by the Court to sue by Pierre Barribeau her next friend as a poor person of a plea of

Return

Plea

Similiter

of trespass, to the damage of said plaintiff of five hundred dollars, and have you then there this writ = <sup>LS</sup> Witness Archibald Gamble Clerk of said Court at Office this second day of June one thousand eight hundred and twenty five = Archibald Gamble Clerk = On which said writ was endorsed the following Sheriffs Return to wit " Executed this writ on the within named Joseph Tagon and Terrase Valle by reading it to them in ~~the~~ the township of St Charles this 14<sup>th</sup> June 1825 and on Charles Tagon in the Township of St Charles on the 18<sup>th</sup> June 1825 = by reading it to him the within named Francis Tagon is not found in my County this 11<sup>th</sup> Day of July 1825 = A L Mills Sheriff of St Charles County Mo" And afterwards to wit on the fifth day of August in the year last aforesaid the following plea was filed in said Cause to wit " Leprenier Chauvin, Charles Tagon pierre Chouteau Sen<sup>r</sup> & others = ads = Celeste a woman of color by P Paribean her next friends = b.c. 5<sup>th</sup> Louis July Term 1825 and the said Defendants by their attorney come and defend the force and injury when &c and say that they are not guilty of the said supposed trespasses laid to their charge or any part thereof in manner and form as the said Celeste hath thereof above complained against them and of this the said defendants put themselves on the Country = Lawless, atty for Defts " And the said Plaintiff doth the like = Farris Gamble & M Lick Atty for plff" = And afterwards to wit on the said second day of December in the said year the following further proceedings were had in said Cause to wit " Celeste vs Helen <sup>Chevalliers</sup> ~~Chauvin~~ Adm<sup>r</sup> & others & The Death of Charles Tagon one of the said defendants suggested whereupon Leprenier Chauvin Executor of said Charles Tagon appears and suit revives against him as Executor as aforesaid" And the said Cause was continued from Term to Term of the said Court until Monday 11<sup>th</sup> December 1826 when the following further proceedings were had to wit = " Celeste vs The Administrator of Helen Chevallier & others = Ordered that a special venire facias issue returnable on Wednesday next commanding the Sheriff to summon eighteen good and lawful men to attend on Wednesday next to ~~serve as~~ <sup>serve as</sup> ~~jurors~~ at Ten o Clock in the morning to serve as jurors = " And accordingly the following writ issued from

Special Venire  
No 1

the Office of the said clerk to wit = "County of St Louis ss = The State of Missouri, To the Sheriff of said County Greeting = You are here by Commanded to summon eighteen good and lawful men of your county that they be and appear before our Circuit Court on Wednesday the thirteenth instant at the Court house in the City of St Louis at the hour of Ten O'clock in the forenoon of that day then and there to serve as jurors in the case of Celeste vs Chevaliers Administrator and others and have you then there this writ = (LS) Witness Archibald Gamble clerk of our said Court at Office this Twelfth day of December in the year One thousand eight hundred and Twenty six. Archibald Gamble clerk = And on the said writ is endorsed the following return = "Executed this

Return

writ and herewith return the names of Eighteen good and lawful men = R Simpson Sheriff = to wit Edward Charles, Paul D Page, Thomas Baird, Eliakim Redfield, James S Thomas, William L Long, Wm H Pocke Wm Hooper, John A Barbee, John Murry, Jesse Coleburn Edward Harrington, Thomas Andrews, Isaac A Setcher, Chuksterberg Reaman, Richard Dunlavy, John Alexander, David B Hill, Jacob Lightner = " And the following additional writ of Venire also

No 2

issued from the Office of the Clerk of said Court to wit = "County of St Louis ss = The State of Missouri To the Sheriff of the County of St Louis County Greeting = We command you to summon eighteen good and lawful men of your county that they be and appear before our Circuit Court now in session, at the City of St Louis, on the 21<sup>st</sup> day of this instant month at ten O'clock in the morning of said day then and there to serve as jurors in a case between Celeste a woman of colour plaintiff & Leprenier Chauvin ad<sup>r</sup> of Helen Chevallier & others defendants and have you then there this writ with a panel of the jury aforesaid endorsed thereon (LS) Witness Archibald Gamble clerk of our said Court this 14<sup>th</sup> day of December 1826 Archibald Gamble clerk" And the said writ was endorsed with the following

Return

Sheriff's Return to wit = "Executed this writ and herewith return the names of 18 good & lawful men R Simpson Sheriff = to wit Wharton Rector, Wm M Downs, Wm Calvert, Sam<sup>l</sup> Denny Chuksterberry Reaman, Benjamin Sawhead, Elsey H Rose, Josiah Mills, William Thomas, James Mangfield, Adam Martin Jr David Martin Jr, Wm Robinson, John S Brown Lewis Hume, Michael

Castello, John Mulhall James Barry." And afterwards to  
wit on the twenty first day of December in the year eighteen hun-  
dred & twenty six - the following further proceedings were had in  
said Court, in said Cause, to wit - " Celeste - vs - Sefreniere Chau-  
vin Administrator of Helen Chevalier, Charles Tagon, Pierre Chouteau  
Senior, Auguste Chouteau ~~Junior~~ <sup>Pierre Chouteau Junior</sup>, Lequest Chouteau, Bartholomew  
Berthold and Pelagie Berthold his wife, Joseph Tagon, Francis Tagon  
and Terrace Valle. Now at this day come the parties aforesaid by  
their respective attorneys aforesaid and thereupon also came a jury  
to wit - Cheeks Berry Redman, Benjamin Sawheads, Elsy St Rose, Josiah  
Miles, William Thomas, James Wingfield Adam Martin Junior Da-  
vid Martin, John I Brown, Michael Castello, John Mulhall and James  
Barry twelve good and lawful men who being duly elected tried and  
sworn well and truly to try the issue within joined between the parties  
aforesaid and the said Plaintiff by her attorneys says she will  
not further prosecute her said action against the said Charles  
Tagon, Pierre Chouteau Senior August Chouteau Junior Pierre  
Chouteau Junior, Lequest Chouteau Bartholomew Berthold  
& Pelagie Berthold, Joseph Tagon, Francis Tagon and Terrace  
Valle but voluntarily suffers the same to be discontinued  
Therefore it is ~~confessed~~ that the said Celeste take nothing  
by her said writ against the said Charles Tagon, Pierre Chou-  
teau Senior, Auguste Chouteau ~~Junior~~ Junior, Pierre Chouteau  
Junior, Lequest Chouteau, Bartholomew Berthold and Pelagie  
Berthold, Joseph Tagon Francis Tagon and Terrace Valle and  
that they the said Charles Tagon, Pierre Chouteau Senior August  
Chouteau Junior Pierre Chouteau Junior, Lequest Chouteau,  
Bartholomew Berthold, Pelagie Berthold, Joseph Tagon, Francis  
Tagon and Terrace Valle go thereof without day, and the Jurors  
aforesaid upon their oaths aforesaid as to the issue within  
joined between the said Celeste & Sefrenier Chauvin Admin-  
istrator of Helen Chevalier deceased do say that the said  
Sefreniere Chauvin Administrator of Helen Chevaliere deceas-  
ed is guilty of the trespasses, imprisonment and wrongs in  
manner and form as in said declaration alleged and they as-  
sess the Damage of the said Plaintiff by her sustained by reason  
of the Trespass and Detention aforesaid to the sum of six

Verdict =

Motion for New Trial and one fourth cents, whereupon the said Defendant by his attorney moved the Court for a new trial & files his reasons therefor" = And the said Reasons are in the words following to wit " Celeste a woman color - vs - Chauvin adm of Mad: Chevalier = Motion for a new trial in the above case for the following reasons = 1. The Verdict is agt evidence = 2. The verdict is agt Law = Lawless." And the said Cause was continued from Term to Term and year to year unto the July Term of the said Circuit Court ~~in the~~ A D 1836 when on the 2<sup>nd</sup> August in said year the following further proceedings were had to wit " Celeste vs Helen Chevalier's admr & others = Suit for freedom The judge of this Court having been of counsel for the defendants above named, as also in the Case of Auguste against the same, it is ordered that the venue thereof be changed to the County of Jefferson in the judicial Circuit of this State, and that the clerk of this Court make out and transmit to the clerk of <sup>the</sup> Circuit Court for said County of Jefferson, a complete transcript of the record and proceedings in said Causes, together with all ~~and singular~~ the original papers appertaining to and filed in the same

State of Missouri  
County of St Louis } I John Ruland clerk of the Circuit Court in and for said County hereby certify the foregoing to be a true and complete transcript of the Record and proceedings in the Case of Celeste vs Helen Chevalier's Admr as the same now remains of Record in my Office

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and affixed the seal of said Court at Office in the City of St Louis this 30<sup>th</sup> Day of June 1837 -

J. W. Ruland Clerk

Deleste

15  
Helen Chauncy Adams

Free John Rutland Clark's debt court \$5.28

|                 |       |
|-----------------|-------|
| " " " " " " " " | 18.35 |
| " " " " " " " " | 9.00  |
| " " " " " " " " | 18.25 |
| " " " " " " " " | 3.50  |
| " " " " " " " " | 3.00  |
| " " " " " " " " | 2.50  |
| " " " " " " " " | 1.50  |
| " " " " " " " " | 1.00  |
| " " " " " " " " | 2.10  |
| " " " " " " " " | 3.00  |
| " " " " " " " " | 67.48 |

19  
1837

Filed Aug 8<sup>th</sup> 1837  
Attest  
J. P. Dutton