

Jefferson County Circuit Court
Case File - Civil

October 1858

Rice, Thomas
vs

Bridgman, William

Debt

Involved purchase of 3 unnamed
slaves; file contains only depositions
from Texas and jury instructions

Box

10

Folder 53

Thomas Price Plaintiff }
 against } In the Circuit Court
William A Magnan }
 Defendant } of Jefferson County,
 } State of Tennessee.
 } AD 1858

To the Representative William A Bradshaw in the
above Case

You are hereby notified that depositions
of witnesses to be read in evidence in the above
Cause on part of the Plaintiff, on the trial thereof,
will be taken at the Court house in the town
of Sherman in the County of Grayson in the State
of Texas on the 15th day of September 1858
between the hours of 9 in the forenoon and 5 in
the afternoon of that day, and that the taking of
said depositions if not completed on that day will
be continued from day to day at the same place
and between the same hours till completed -

D. G. Beal

Atty per plp -

Served the within notice & delivering
to the within William & Bridgman a
true copy of the within notice

Done at the County of St. Genevieve in
the State of Missouri this 30 day of August
1858

Shaffus 50 cts

Robert J. Bond
Shery

County of Jefferson, sct.

THE STATE OF MISSOURI,

To any Judge or Justice of the Peace or other Judicial Officer
of the State of Texas, Greeting:

We, reposing special trust and confidence in your integrity and circumspection,
do authorize and require you, that you cause to come before you, such person or per-
sons as shall be named to you by Thomas Rice or his

Attorney or Agent, and him or them examine upon his, her or their corporal oath,
(to be by you administered,) touching their knowledge of any thing that may relate
to a certain matter of controversy, now pending in our Circuit Court, for the County
of Jefferson, wherein, Thomas Rice — is —

plaintiff,

and William Bridger — is —

defendant,

on the part of the Plaintiff; and having so reduced the said depositions
so taken by you, as aforesaid, in writing, you are required to send the same, together
with this commission, enclosed under your seal, to our said Circuit Court, with all
convenient speed.

Elias D. Hovey

Witness, JOHN S. MATHEWS, Clerk of our said Circuit

Court, at Hillsboro — this 22nd
day of July — in the year of our Lord one
thousand eight hundred and fifty eight

Elias D. Hovey

Clerk C. C.

Joseph Henry Ben Court
Oct. Term 1858

1674
Mourne Price

as J. Dickinson

William Davidson

Rec'd per Court Oct 4. 1858

repaid of fees by me

June 7th 1859

Aluo J. Honey Clerk

L. J. fees -- \$ 1.50

Clerk's fee for court

1.50

Wm. Davidson

Depositions of witnesses produced sworn and examined on the 15th day of September AD 1858 between the hours of nine of the clock in the forenoon and five o'clock in the afternoon of that day at the least house in the town of Sherman in the County of Grayson in the State of Texas before me a justice of the peace within and for said County and State, in a Cause now depending in the Circuit Court of Jefferson County State of Missouri between Thomas Rice plaintiff and William A Bridgman defendant

James M. Santhall of lawful age being produced sworn and examined on the oath of the plaintiff deponent and said

1 Question - Are you acquainted with the parties to the above named suit?

Answer: I am.

2 Question - Were you acquainted with Nathaniel Bridgman the father of the defendant in this cause?

Answer: I was

3 Question - Where did the plaintiff Thomas Rice and Nathaniel Bridgman live when you knew them?

Answer - In the latter part of my acquaintance with them they both lived in Farmington Missouri

4 Question - In what business was Thomas Rice engaged when you knew him in Farmington, and state in what business Nathaniel Bridgman was engaged -

Ans Thomas Rice was engaged in Merchandizing, and Bridgman was principally engaged in Trading Part of the time he was boarding at Rice's

5 Question - Were you engaged in partnership with Price of so state when & how long you remained in partnership with him?

Answer I was engaged in Partnership with him Commencing in January 1854 and ending in January 1855

6 Question Do you know any thing about Nathaniel Bridgman selling to Thomas Price any Slaves if so state, when it was, what was the price and how much was paid?

Answer I do, he sold Price 3 Slaves in May or June 1855 I do not know the price - He made some payments the Amount I do not know

7 Question Do you know of any indebtedness of Nathaniel Bridgman to Thomas Price before and at the time of making the purchase of the Slaves by Price of Bridgman, if so state the amount of said indebtedness and whether by note or account or by both?

Answer I do, the Amount I cannot state. The indebtedness was both by 2 Notes and an account

8th question = Do you know of any debts due and owing by, Nathaniel Bridgman to any one & which were paid by Rice for him? if ^{so} state the amounts and the persons to whom paid and whether they were so paid by Rice at the request of Nathaniel Bridgman?

Answer - I do - Rice paid me for Nathaniel Bridgman a debt of fifty five Dollars & 15 cents. He also paid Philip Meredith 33 or 34 Dollars also Pa D^{ro} George & Willoughby Williams. Also that their Bills, also to M^r & S^r Douthet an account the amounts not recollected - ~~for~~ some of which I know were ^{paid} made at the request of Bridgman

9th question Were you acquainted with the pecuniary circumstances of Thomas Rice at or about the time he made the purchase of the Slaves, if so, state what they were & what was his ability to make such purchases

Answer I was. He was entirely able to make such a purchase -

10th question - Do you know of Thomas Rice making payments of money for Nathaniel Bridgman or Samuel S. Bridgman, if so state the persons to whom paid, what for and what amounts were so paid

Answer

I know of his paying Daniel Bridgman between 70 and Eighty Dollars as I understood on a Judgment against Nathaniel Bridgman, also that he paid Rice & Douthet the amount of their accounts against Nathaniel Bridgman and Samuel S. Bridgman, the amounts not recollected -

James M. Douthet

Signed to and Subscribed before me
this 15th day of Sept 1858 J. M. Douthet J. P.

I William D Litch a Justice of the
peace within and for the said County of
Grayson in the State of Texas do certify
that in pursuance of the annexed Commission
and notice Came before me James M Dentist
at the Court house in the town of Sherman in
the County and State aforesaid who was by me
sworn to testify the whole truth of his knowl-
edge touching the matters in Controversy
aforesaid - that he was examined and his
examination reduced to writing and sub-
scribed by him in my presence on the
day between the hours and at the place in
that last first aforesaid and ~~these~~^{his} said
affidavits are now herewith returned.
And I further certify that the said James Dentist
resides in the County of Grayson in the
State of Texas

Given under my hand in the County of
Grayson and State of Texas this 15th day
of September 1858.

Wm D Litch
Justice of the Peace
Grayson County Texas

State of Texas

It is hereby certified that on the 16th day of
September AD 1858 ^{William D Litch} was and now is an acting
Justice of the peace within and for the
County and State aforesaid duly Commissioned and
qualified & acting as such and that full faith and credit
are due to his acts as such.

In testimony whereof I Solomon Bastick
Clerk of the County - Court within and for said
County of Grayson & State of Texas have hereto subscribed
my name and affixed the seal of said Court this 15th
day of September 1858. S. Bastick Clerk

If the Jury find that the Defendants intended to unlawfully
An Account of the proceedings before the Jury, they will find them
could give rise at our said matter and further details
withstanding, with this 1 Day of September
that if the Jury find that nothing unlawful was
that the Defendant in treating the said one as a mere witness
as a mere witness to report it, they will find the Defendants
not guilty. Remedy accordingly. *Wm. W. W. W.*

If the Jury find that the Defendant with out

^{these} the Jury agree to accept

Wm. W. W. W.

Wm. W. W. W.

San Diego, California

I am, Yours truly, William W. W.

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