

Document #1793-03-11-02 – Julia Purchases Freedom for Medery

K4BL Abstract: Julia Fortier, a free Black woman, files a freedom suit to compel the fair valuation of Medery, who is enslaved by Antoine Joseph Piquery, and successfully purchases his liberty. This case is an example of *coartación*, the process enslaved people under Spanish colonialism used to facilitate self-purchase, often with the help of their kinfolk, that included forcing their owners to provide them with an estimate of their value.

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LHC Abstract: Suit brought by Julia Fortier, free black woman, to compel the emancipation of Medery, slave of Antoine Joseph Piquery.

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Names: White - Piquery, Antoine Joseph; Piquery, Antoine J.; Piquery, *Don Jph*; Piqueri, Antoine J.; Fanguy, Vincente; Fanguy, Vte; Guinault, Felipe; Guinault, Felipe Santiago; Pedesclaux, Pedro; Carondelet, Baron de; Vidal, Nicolas María

Names: Native - n/a

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Transcription (Spanish, diplomatic)	Translation (English, modern)
<p>[folio 0 recto] [digital 2]</p> <p>Año De_1793H</p> <p>Julia Fortier solicitando dar la libertad a el Negro nombrado Mendery esclavo de Dⁿ Juan Piquery por el Precio De su estimación_____</p> <p>N.º 18</p> <p>N.vv58</p> <p>[moderno, a lápiz] March 11, 1793 [en lápiz rojo de archivo] 2999</p> <p>Juez</p> <p>_____</p> <p>VS^{or} Gov.^{or} }</p> <p>S^{no}</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Pedesclaux</p> <p>[f. 0 verso] [dig.3]</p> <p>[en blanco]</p>	<p>[page #1] [digital 2]</p> <p>[In the] Year of 1793</p> <p>Julia Fortier, requesting the freedom of the <i>negro</i> named Mendery, <i>esclavo</i> of <i>Don</i> Juan Piquery, for the price of his [fair] valuation..</p> <p>No. 18</p> <p>N.vv58</p> <p>[modern, in pencil] March 11, 1793 [in archival red pencil] 2999</p> <p>Judge</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Your Lord Governor }</p> <p>Notary</p> <p>_____</p> <p>Pedesclaux</p> <p>[p. #2] [dig.3]</p> <p>[blank]</p>

[f. 1r] [dig.4]

Julia Fortier Negra libre vecina de esta ciudad en la mejor forma que haya lugar en dño ante V.S parezco y digo; que deseando rescatar dela Esclavitud en quese halla el Negro Medery Esclavo de M.^r Piquery sup.^{co} a V.S. se sirva mandar que el dhe su Amo, nombre un Estimador de su parte, pa= para que con el que nombre que los es D.ⁿ Vicente Fanguy, procedan a la Estimacion de dho Negro Medery Portanto _____ A V.S. Sup.^{co} haverlo por nombrado proveer y mandar como pido Con Justicia costas Juro no es de malicia &^a _____

Por Julia Fortier

[Firmado:] Felipe Guinault

Por presentada: y à tento à ser para el fin que se propone de la

~

[f. 1v] [dig.5]

Libertad del Negro Medery, esclavo de M.^r Piquery, la Estimacion que se solicita de la persona de aquel, procedase desde luego à ella; para la qual se ha por nom-

[p. #2] [dig.4]

Julia Fortier, *negra libre*, resident of this city, in the way which is necessary by law, before Your Lordship, I appear and say that wishing to rescue from the slavery in which the *negro* Medery, *esclavo* of Mr. Piquery, is kept, I beg of Your Lordship to order that of his said master, to appoint an estimator on his behalf, so that, with which the named, *Don* Vicente Fanguy, they may proceed to the estimation of the aforesaid *negro* Medery. Thusly, I beg Your Lordship to appoint, provide and order as I ask with due justice. I swear [that I have] no malice, etc.

For Julia Fortier

[Signed:] Felipe Guinault

Motion filed: And in order to achieve the purpose proposed of the

[p. #3] [dig.5]

liberty of the *negro* Medery, *esclavo* of Mr. Piquery, the estimate, which is requested by this person [on his behalf], shall proceed immediately, [and] for which [purpose] has been appointed

brada por esta parte de Aprecia-
dor à d.ⁿ Vicente Fanguy à quien
se hara saber para su acceptacion,
Y Juramento que se comete, dandose
noticia de esta Providencia al Amo
del Esclavo, paraq^c dentro de segundo
dia nombre otro Perito de su satis-
faccion con apercebimiento que des
no verificando, se hara de oficio. ____

[Rubrica, Carondelet] [Rubrica, Vidal]

Proveyolo el S.^r Baron de Carondelet
Caballero Dela religion de S.ⁿ Juan
Coronel Delos E.^s extos, Governador e
Yntendente Grãl vice Patrono Real
~

[f. 2r] [dig.6]

ellas Prov.[~] de la Luisiana, y Florida
Occidental e Ynspector de las tropas
veteranas, y milicias De estas por
S.M. Con dictamen del S.^r D. D. Nicolas
Maria Vidal teniente Governador
y Auditor de Grrã De esta dha Prov.^a
y Asesor grãl del Governo De esta por
S.M. y lo rubricanas en la ciudad de la
Nueba Orleans a onze de Marso
De mil setecientos, noventa, y tres años=

[Firmado:] Pedro Pedesclaux

for this party as appraiser
Don Vicente Fanguy who will
be notified for his acceptance
and oath, which [he shall] commit, [and] give
notice of this provision to the master
of the slave, so that within two
days, he may appoint another expert of his
satisfaction, with the warning that if this
is not done, it will be executed *ex officio*.

[Rubric, Carondelet] [Rubric, Vidal]

Thus ordered: [By] the Lord Baron de Carondelet,
Knight of the Religious [Order] of St. John [of
Jerusalem],
Colonel of the Royal Armies, Governor and
Intendant-General, Royal Vice-Patron

[p. #4] [dig.6]

of this Province of Louisiana and West
Florida, and Inspector-General of all Veteran
Troops and [Infantry] Militias by
His Majesty, with dictum of Lord Dr. *Don* Nicolas
Maria Vidal, Lieutenant-Governor
and Civil Legal Advisor of this said Province,
and Advisor General of this Government by
His Majesty. And they signed in the City of
New Orleans on [the] 11th of March
of the year seventeen-hundred ninety-three.

[Signed:] Pedro Pedesclaux

<p>[Rubrica, Pedesclaux] E^{sno}Pub.^{co}</p> <p>Nf En dho dia lo hace saber a Julia Fortier, Negra libre doy fee_____</p> <p>[Firmado:] Pedesclaux E^{sno} [Rubrica, Pedesclaux]</p> <p>Diligencia } En el mismo dia yo el S.^{no} lo hace por D.ⁿ Josef Coupery, y se me informo hacia su rendencia en el cargo, para que conne lo porpo por diligencia, doy feé==</p> <p>[Firmado:] Pedesclaux E^{sno} [Rubrica, Pedesclaux]</p> <p>N.Acep.ⁿ y juram^{to} } En el mismo dia mes, y año yo el S.^{no} ~</p> <p>[f .2v] [dig.7]</p> <p>hice saber a D.ⁿ Vincente Fanguy el nombramiento de estimador que por el decreto que antecedo sele hase, quien acepto, y Juro por Dios y un a cruz segun drõ Deproceder bien y fielmente en el encargo que sele</p>	<p>[Rubric, Pedesclaux] Notary Public</p> <p>Notarized: On the said day I made known to Julia Fortier, <i>negra libre</i>. I attest,</p> <p>[Signed:] Pedro Pedesclaux, Notary [Rubric, Pedesclaux]</p> <p>Proceedings } On the same day, month, and year, I, the notary, have made [it known] to <i>Don</i> Joseph Coupery, and [I] having been informed [that] he has dispensed of his charge, so with that it is done by due process. I attest,</p> <p>[Signed:] Pedesclaux, Notary [Rubric, Pedesclaux]</p> <p>Notarized, accepted, and ordered }</p> <p>On the same day, month, and year, I, the notary,</p> <p>[p. #5] [dig.7]</p> <p>made known to <i>Don</i> Vincente Fanguy the appointment as appraiser that is made to him by the above decree, who accepted and swore [oath] by God and the Cross, according to the law, to proceed well and faithfully in the task that is given</p>
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hase, y lo firmo, doy fee _____

[Firmado:] V=^{te} Fangui

Antemi

[Firmado:] Pedro Pedesclaux E^{no}pub.^{co}

[Rubrica, Pedesclaux]

[f. 3r] [dig.8]

Julia Fortier negra libre vecina de esta Ciudad en los autos q^e digo contra Don Jph[~] Piquery sobre conseguir la libertad del negro __ Mederie su esclavo por el precio de su justa tasacion ante VS digo q^e sele ha mandado al ante dho nombrase tasador de su parte y en atencion a __ vendir al campo a una legua de esta Ciudad del otro lado del rio, VS se ha de servir mandar dela libre boleta De comparendo cometida su intimacion a qualquier persona habil por tanto AVS Suplico se sirva proveer y mandar como pido con Justicia costas juro y para ello &

Por Julia Fortier

[Firmado:] Felipe Guinault

Como lo pide

to him and sign [as such]. I attest,

[Signed:] Vicente Fanguy

Before me

[Signed:] Pedro Pedesclaux, Notary Public

[Rubric, Pedesclaux]

[p. #6] [dig.8]

Julia Fortier, *negra libre*, resident of this city, in the proceedings that I began against *Don Joseph* Piquery about achieving the freedom of the *negro* Medery, his slave, for the price of his fair valuation, before Your Lordship, has sent the aforementioned named appraiser on his behalf, and in consideration of coming from the countryside one league from this city on the other side of the [Mississippi] river, [I beg] Your Lordship order served freedom papers via subpoena, given charge to any able person, thusly. To Your Lordship, I beg you to provide and order as I request, with due justice, and by which I swear it, etc.

For Julia Fortier

[Signed:] Felipe Guinault

As requested.

<p>[Rubrica, Carondelet] [Rubrica, Vidal]</p> <p>Proveida el Sor Baron de Carondelet Cav.^{ro} de San Juan Coronel de los reales Extos _____</p> <p>[f. 3v] [dig.9]</p> <p>Gov.^{or} Int.^e grāl, y Vice Patrono real de las Pro.[~] de la Luisiana Con dictamen del S^{or} d.d, Nicolas M^a Vidal Th.^e Gov.^{or} Auditor de grrã y Asesor grāl del Gov.^o y lo ru- bricason en la N^a Orleans à Treze de Marzo de mil Set.^s nuvento y tres</p> <p>[Firmado:] Pedro Pedesclaux E^{sno}pub.^{co} [Rubrica, Pedesclaux]</p> <p>N.^f En dho dia lo his Saver à Julia Fortier doy fe _____</p> <p>[Firmado:] Pedesclaux E^{no}pub.^{co} [Rubrica, Pedesclaux]</p> <p><u>Nota</u>, Fue en el mismo dia se libro la boleta q^e se mando y lo entreguè a la parte doy</p>	<p>[Rubric, Carondelet] [Rubric, Vidal]</p> <p>Thus ordered: [By] the Lord Baron de Carondelet, Knight of the Religious [Order] of St. John, Colonel of the Royal Armies,</p> <p>[p. #6] [dig.9]</p> <p>Governor, Intendant-General, and Royal Vice-Patron of this Province of Louisiana with dictum of Lord Dr. <i>Don</i> Nicolas Maria Vidal, Lieutenant-Governor, Civil Legal Advisor, and Advisor General of the Government, which they sign in New Orleans on the 13th of March of seventeen- hundred and ninety-three.</p> <p>[Signed] Pedro Pedesclaux, Notary Public [Rubric, Pedesclaux]</p> <p>Notarized: On the said day I made [the decree] known to Julia Fortier. I attest,</p> <p>[Signed:] Pedesclaux, Notary Public [Rubric, Pedesclaux]</p> <p>Note: It was on the same day that the papers were issued and sent, and I delivered them to the party. I</p>
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<p>Fe _____</p> <p>[Firmado:] Pedesclaux E.^{sno}</p> <p>[Rubrica, Pedesclaux]</p> <p>[f. 3r] [dig.10]</p> <p>[en blanco]</p>	<p>attest,</p> <p>[Signed:] Pedesclaux, Notary</p> <p>[Rubric, Pedesclaux]</p> <p>[p. #7] [dig.10]</p> <p>[blank]</p>
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