

MSA SC 5463-7-1

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United States of America.

District of Maryland and Territory

Before the subscriber a commissioner appointed by the Circuit Court of the United States in and for the District and Territory of Maryland to take affidavits etc personally appeared the 25<sup>th</sup> day of May A.D. 1861. George W. Williams of the City of Baltimore and district aforesaid, and made oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God that the matters and facts stated in the foregoing petition are true to the best of his knowledge information and belief and that the said petition was signed in his presence by the said petitioner, and never have been known to be in his possession, but that he was at the time and still is in close custody at Fort Mifflin, and all access to him denied except to his counsel and his brother in law; this deponent being one of the said counsel. —

Sworn to before me

This 25<sup>th</sup> day of May A.D. 1861

John Hanan

Notary



United States of America District of Maryland and Territory

Before the subscriber a commissioner appointed by the Circuit Court of the United States in and for the District and Territory of Maryland to take affidavits etc personally appeared the 26<sup>th</sup> day of May A.D. 1861 George W. Williams of the City of Baltimore and district aforesaid, and made oath on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God that on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of May he went to Fort Mifflin in the preceding affidavits mentioned, and obtained an interview with General George Cadwalader then and there in command, and deponent as one of the counsel of said John Merryman in the foregoing petition named and at his request, and declaring himself to be such counsel he requested and demanded that he might be permitted to see the written papers, and to be permitted to make

~~To the Honorable Roger B. Taney~~  
Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of the  
United States ~~and Judge of the Circuit~~  
~~Court of the District of Columbia and~~  
~~for the District of Maryland.~~

The petition of John M. Wynn  
of Baltimore County and State aforesaid  
respectfully shews that being at home  
in his own domicile he was about  
the hour of 2 o'clock <sup>of the 25th May 1854</sup> AM, arrested  
from his bed by an armed force  
pretending to act under military  
orders from some person or persons,  
petitioner unknown - That he  
was by said armed force deprived  
of his liberty by being taken into  
custody, and removed from his  
said home to Fort Mifflin <sup>near to</sup>  
the City of Baltimore and <sup>in the</sup> District  
aforesaid, and where your petitioner  
now is in close custody.

That he has been so imprisoned  
without any process or color of law  
whatsoever, and that no such  
is pretended by those who are  
thus detaining him, and that no  
warrant from any Court municipal  
or other person having legal  
authority to issue the same exists  
to justify such arrest, but to the  
contrary the same, as above is  
stated, hath been done without  
color of law and in violation of



the Constitution and laws of the  
United States ~~which~~  
~~of which~~ he is a citizen  
that since his arrest he has  
been informed that by some order  
purporting to come from one  
General ~~Stearns~~ of Pennsylvania, &  
this petitioner unknown, directing  
the arrest of the Captain of some  
Company in Baltimore County  
of some Company this petitioner  
never was and is not Captain  
nor the pretended ground of  
his arrest and is the sole ground  
as he believes on which he is now  
detained

That the person now  
so detaining him and holding  
him at said post is Brigadier  
General George Cadwalader the  
Military Commander of said  
post purporting to act in the presence and  
by color of the authority of the United States  
You petitioner therefore  
prays that the writ of Habeas  
Corpus may issue to be directed  
to the said George Cadwalader  
commanding him to produce  
You petitioner before you and  
as aforesaid on the cause, if any,  
for his arrest and detention, to be  
and that you petitioner be discharged  
and restored to liberty, and as  
in duty  
John W. Wynnman  
John W. Wynnman 25<sup>th</sup> March 1861.