

*To His Excellency Abraham Lincoln President of the United States
and to the Honorable the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress Assembled*

The undersigned respectfully submit the following: That they are natives of Louisiana and Citizens of the United States; that they are legal citizens, they are ready to sacrifice their fortunes and their lives. That a large portion of them are owners of real estate and all of them are owners of personal property; that many of them are engaged in pursuits of commerce and industry, which others are employed as artisans in various trades; that they are all fitted to enjoy the privileges and immunities belonging to the conditions of citizens of the United States and among them may be found many of the descendants of those men whom the illustrious Jackson styled "his fellow citizens" when he called upon them to take up arms to repel the enemies of the country. Your petitioners further respectfully represent that over and above the right which in the language of the Declaration of Independence they possess to liberty and the pursuit of happiness, they are supported by the opinion of just and loyal men, especially by what of Edward Bates, Attorney General, in the claim to the right of enjoying the privileges and immunities pertaining to the condition of citizens of the United States; and to support the legitimacy of this claim; they believe it simply necessary to submit to your excellency and to the Honorable Congress, the following consideration which they beg of you to weigh in the balance of law and justice. Notwithstanding their forefathers served in the army of the United States 1814-1815 and aided in repelling from the Soil of Louisiana, a haughty enemy, over confident of success, yet they and their descendants have ever since, and until the era of the present rebellion been estranged and even, repudiated, excluded from all rights, from all franchises, even the smallest, when their brave father offered their bosoms to the enemy to insure the industrial integrity of the republic. During this period of the forty-nine years they have never ceased to be peaceable citizens, paying their taxes on an assessment of more than fifteen millions of dollars. At the call of Genl Butler, they hastened to rally under the banner of union and liberty. They have spilled their blood, and are still pouring it out for the maintenance of the Constitution of the United States; in a word they are soldiers of the Union, and they will defend it so long as their hands have strength to hold a musket. While Gen. Banks was at the siege of Fort Hudson and the city threatened by the enemy his excellency Genl Shipley called for troops for the defense of city, and they were foremost in responding to the call having raised the first regiment in the short space of forty eight hours. In consideration of this fact, as true and as clear as the sun which lights this great continent, in consideration of the services already performed and still to be rendered by them to their common country, they humbly beseech your excellency and Congress to cast your eye upon a loyal congregation awaiting with confidence and dignity the proclamation of those inalienable rights which belong to the conditions of citizens of the great American Republic. There is but a feeble voice claiming attention in the midst of the grave questions raised by this terrible conflict, yet confident of the justice which guides the action of the government, they have no hesitation in the terrible conflict, yet confident of the justice which guides the action of the government, they have no hesitation in speaking what is prompted by their hearts, "We are men. Treat us as such." Mr. President and honorable members of congress, the petitioners refer to your wisdom the task of deciding whether they, loyal colored men, who are ready to make every sacrifice for the support of the best government which man has been permitted to create are to be deprived of the right to assist in establishing a civil government in our beloved state of Louisiana, and also in choosing their representatives, both for the legislature of the state and of the congress of the nation. Your petitioners ever that they have applied in respectful terms to Brigadier General Geo. F. Shipley, military Governor of Louisiana and to Major Gen. N. P. Banks, commanding the Department of the Gulf, praying to be placed upon the Registers as voters to the end that they might participate in the reorganization of civil government in Louisiana and that their petition has met with no response from those officers, and it is feared that, none will be given and they therefore appeal to the justice of the representatives of the nation, and ask that all citizens of Louisiana of African descent, born free before the rebellion, may by proper order be directed to be admitted to be inscribed on the registers and admitted to the rights and privileges of electors.

And your petitioners will ever pray:

F. B. Roudanez Arnold Bertonneau

Delegates of the Free Colored Representatives of Louisiana

New Orleans, La January 5, 1864

Aberton, R.	Bourgeau, Alfred	Dawson, Allen	Eescoffie, Francois	Hart, John	Leviste, E.	Peralta, E.J.	Seldon, Cesar
Adam, Harris	Bourgeau, J.	De Gruy, Louis	Escot, A.	Hart, S.L.	Levy, William	Perault Jr., A.	Seldon, John
Adam, Manuel	Boute, Lucien T.	Debergue, M.	Espinay, Antoine	Hazeur, Elverin L.	Limilien, Antoine	Perault, Albin	Seldon, Robert
Albert, Charles	Boutin, J. Adolphe	Dechall, John	Etienne, Louis	Hazure, F.	Limosin, Jacques	Perault, Paul	Selluare, James
Aldoin, J.B.	Boutin, Jos.	Decou, Adolph	Eugene, Alphonse	Hector, J. Louis	Lioteau, Alfred	Perault, Placide	Senac, Antony
Alexis, C.	Boyard Jr. C.	Decou, Antoine	Eugene, J.	Heins, Alcee	Loquet, J.S.	Perin, Adolphe	Sennet, A.
Alexis, Victor	Breau, F.	Decou, Honore	Eveque, Sainville	Heins, Clebert	Lorentinez, Jules	Perin, Theodore	Seressole, V.L.
Allain, Valery	Bricou, T.	Decou, Numa	Fair, E.D.	Heins, Ernest	Lougard, J.	Perrault, Appolinaire	Simeze, John
Allen, Thomas G.	Brion, P.	Decou, Sosthene	Ferand, Lovinsky	Heins, Manuel	Loudueil, Francois	Perrault, E.	Simeze, Theophile
Allessard, Paul	Brion, Pierre	Decuir, Antoine	Ferbos, Victor	Heins Jr., Manuel	Louis, Ed.	Perrault, G.F.	Smith, Alexander
Amand, Isidore	Brito Jr., M.	Decuir, Georges	Fernandez, Baptiste	Heins, Victor	Louis, Henrie	Perrault, Henri	Smith, H.
Ancard, Alfred	Brito, Manual	Decuir, Jean Baptiste	Fernandez, E.	Henderson, William	Louis, J.P.	Perrault, Simeon	Smith, Zacharie
Ancard, Philippe	Brito, Theophile	Decuir, Joseph	Fernandez, Oscar	Herau, J.B.	Louis, Lafayette	Perez, L.M.	Snaer, Octave
Angelain, Gustave	Broue, Pierre	Decuir, Louis	Ferrand Sr., B.	Heriman Jr., George	Lourbony, Richard	Perez, Louis	Soulier, A.
Angelain, Lucien	Brown, Louis	Decuir, Numa	Ferrand, Valsin	Hewlett, C.	Lutin, G.	Petit, Louis	Sowarez, J.B.
Antoine, G	Brulee, Maximilien	Decuir, Pierre	Filie, Carlite	Hewlett, Florian	Lucrette, Dorbeth	Peyroux, Auguste	St. Armand, H.
Armand, Etienne	Butler, Charles F.	Decuir, Valfroy	Fils, Martin	Hewlett, John	Lucy, Eugene	Philippe, Henri	St. Armand, Jos.
Armand, Joseph	Cabot, A.	Dede, Edmond	Fleitas, Paulin	Hewlett, Leon	Maas, Louis	Pierce, James	St. Cyr, Edouard
Arnaud, Joseph	Cabreville, Francisco	Defillo, John	Fleming, P.	Himbart, Gustave	Macarthy, A.B.	Piernas, Leon	St. Cyr, Ernest
Assemar, J.	Caillou, A.C. Louis	Degrugy, E.	Fleury Jr., Alphonse	Himbart, Pierre	Macarty, Wilson	Pierre, Anatole	St. Cyr, Evariste
Astier, Ursin	Calwell, Edward	Degrugy, Eloï	Fleury Sr., Alphonse	Hippolyte, Eugene	Maconnell, Jim	Pierre, Francois	St. Hermann, D.H.
Aubert, Charles	Camp, Issac	Degrugy, Francois	Fohn, Joseph Capt.	Hippolyte, Francois	Macias, M.	Pierre, Piover	St. Hermann, E.G.
Auguste, Francois	Camp, Manuel	Degrugy, J.	Folin, J.	Honore, D.	Manassa, Raymon	Pignate, Casimir	St. Hermann, G.
Auguste, Laurent	Campanel, E.	Degrugy, Louis	Ford, M.	Honore, Emile	Mansion, J.	Pinta, Joseph	St. Hermann, Oscar
Auguste, Myrtle	Campanel, L.D.	Degrugy, P.	Fortune, Rodolphe	Honore, Jean Baptiste	Mariicht, Nelson	Plantey, Aug.	St. Jean, John
Auguste, Thesford	Campanel, William	Degruoy, C.	Foster, D.	Honore, O.	Marok, L.	Pleise, Francois	St. Leger, Antoine
Auguste, Adolph	Campbell, Joseph	Dojoie, Aristide	Foucher, Louis N.	Honore, Omer	Marshall, George	Pointe, M.	St. Pe, Anatole
Augustin, Philippe	Campbell Jr., Joseph	Delande, Louis	Fourteau, J.B.	Howard, L.C.	Martin, B.	Polar, Lami	Star, Alfred
Azareto, S.C.	Camps, Henri	Desdase, L.T.	Foy Jr., Octave	Hubau, T.L.	Martin, John	Polek, J.P.	Surles, Joseph
Azemar, Felix	Camps, J.	Delay, J.B.	Foy, Octave	Isabell, R.H.	Martin, Louis	Pope, WW.	Surles, Louis
Azemar, Joseph	Camps, Jules	Dellyle, Armand	Fortune, Rodolphe	Isabel, Thomas	Martinez, Charles	Pope, William	Tabaut, Ignace
Assemar, J.	Canelle, P.	Dellyle, Charles	Foster, D.	Jackson, Henry	Martinez, J.A.	Populus, Armand	Taigny, Manual
Astier, Ursin	Cariar, A.	Deloge, Eugene M.	Frielle, F.	Jackson, William	Mathieu, Henri	Populus, J.B.	Taillaud, Geodale
Aubert, Charles	Carlton, Numa	Deloge, Jules A.	Friilot, Antoine	Jasmin, Lucien	Mathurin, Arthur	Populus, Joseph	Taillaud, Mirtel
Auguste, Francois	Carlos, Aristide	Deloge, Mortimer C.	Fuendes, E de	Jeanny, V.	Mathurin, Silvestre	Populus, Michel	Tamino, Joseph
Auguste, Laurent	Casanave, Frank	Delyle, Gustave	Gaignard, Chr.	Jefferson, Louis	Maurice, Joseph G.	Porce, Leonard	Tapo, Telcide
Auguste, Myrtle	Casanave, Frank	Desdemone, E.	Gaignard, V.	Johnson, Henry	Maxent, Fibert	Poree, Francois	Tassin, Joassin
Auguste, Thesford	Cavarache, Eugene	Dellyle, Armand	Gaillard, A.	Jonau, Antoine	Mederic, Ludger	Poree, Hermogene	Taylor, Francois
Auguste, Adolph	Cavelier, Joseph	Deslande, Armand	Gaillard, Raimond	Kephard, John	Meilleur, Capt. Eugene	Poree, Joseph D.J.	Taylor, LW.
Augustin, Philippe	Cavelier, Louis	Deslande, Mirvelte	Gaillardet, Ovide	Kerry, W.	Meilleur, Louis	Pothin, Charles	Ternoir, Eluther
Azareto, S.C.	Carlos, Aristide	Desborde, Joseph	Gall, Hypolite	Ketting, William	Meilleur, N.A.	Pourcerbere, L.	Ternoir, Leon
Azemar, Felix	Casanave, Frank	Desduse, Gustave	Gardere, E.A.	Koff, Aaron	Joseph, Adolphe	Meilleur, Valeour	Ternoir, Louis
Azemar, Joseph	Casanave, Frank	Deslande Jr., George	Garcia, Celestin	Kolion, W.	Joseph, Ernest	Menard, E.	Ternoir, Philippe
Bare, Theod.	Cavelier, Francisco	Deslarde, Armand	Garcia, Pierre	Jourdain, Victor	Kppard, John	Messard, Paul	Tervalon, A.F.
Bare, Theod.	Cavelier, Francisco	Deslarde, Armand	Garcia, T.L.	Juge, Martin	Kepperd, John	Metoyer, A.P.	Tervalon, F.
Barjon, Dutreuil	Cavelier, Francisco	Deslarde, Armand	Garcon, Theodore	Julian, Louis	Kerry, W.	Meynard, E.	Tesson, Louis
Barriere, M.	Cavelier, Francisco	Deslarde, Armand	Gardere, E.A.	Keeling, W.F.	Ketting, William	Miche, George	Testan, C.
Barthelemy, Antoine	Casimir, F.	Deslarde, Armand	Gardete, L.E.	Koff, Aaron	Kelling, W.	Mitchell, H.	Thezan, Henri
Barthelemy, Jean	Casse, Francois	Deslarde, Armand	Gaspard, Francois	Kolion, W.	Kondo, J. Hildever	Milbrou, J. Hildever	Thibault, Jacques
Battell, Paul	Casteen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Gees, F.	Labarriere, Francois	Kondo, J.	Miller, John	Thibault, Arthur D.
Bazile, B.	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Giles, Albert	Labat, Casimir	Lacrette, Ch.	Mirabin, Alcide	Thibault, Danquin.
Beaumond, G.	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Glae, A.	Labat, D.	Lacroix, Charles	Ricco, Amede	Thomas, PC.
Beaurepaire, C.	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Glaipon, Celestin	Labiche, Cyrile	Landford, W.	Reggio, Ernest	Tinchaud, E.
Bebée, Luc	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Glaude, Thomas	Labostry, Constant	Landry Jr., Ov.	Reggio, Octave	Tio, Francisco
Bedou, Gustave	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Glaudin, A.	Laibach, Felix	Lange, Alcide	Rey, Hippolyte	Tournoir, P.M.
Bedoux, D.	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Goban, Charles	Laibach, Francois	Lange, Joseph	Rey, Octave	Tournoir, Sidney
Belling, John	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Godefroy, M.	Lafond, Z.	Lange, M.	Reynal, Auguste	Thibault, Thibault
Belloir, Francois	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Gonzales, Florville	Lamaniere, L.	Laniset, John	Ragnaldez, Aug.	Tibault, Thibault
Belly, William	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Gonzales, Paul	Landford, W.	Nobee, George	Ramard, Arnaud	Tibault, Thibault
Belot, Octave	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Graun, Evariste	Landry Jr., Ov.	Nedd, George	Ramard, Jules	Tibault, Thibault
Belvieu, E.	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Duboclet, A.D.	Lange, Alcide	Nedd, Gustave	Raphael, Papit	Tibault, Thibault
Belvieu, Francois	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Duboclet, A.D.	Lange, Joseph	Notasco, Antonio	Rebel, Charles	Tibault, Thibault
Belvieu, Jr., Joseph	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Duboclet, Augustin	Langevin, Ed.	Olivier, Felix	Rebel, Luc	Tibault, Thibault
Belvieu, Samuel	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Duboclet, E.	Lavigne, J.	Monette, Pierre	Reggio, Albin	Tibault, Thibault
Belvieu, Thomas	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Duboclet, E.	Lavigne, J.	Monplaisir, C.	Reggio, Amede	Tibault, Thibault
Bergeron, Louis	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Duboclet, E.	Lecouvreur, A.N.	Morone, E.	Reggio, Ernest	Tibault, Thibault
Bernard, J.	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Duboclet, E.	Ledufe, Azema	Morant, Charles	Ricard, Anatole	Tibault, Thibault
Berquier, H.	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Duboclet, E.	Ledufe, Honore	Morant, Louis	Ricard, Antoine	Tibault, Thibault
Bertheaud, T.	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Duboclet, E.	Ledufe, Pierre	Moreau, Manual	Ricard, Aristede	Tibault, Thibault
Berthelet, Paul	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Duboclet, E.	Ledufe, Pierre	Morelle, Jeanne	Ricard, Cyprien	Tibault, Thibault
Berthelemy, Eugene	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Duboclet, E.	Leflere, Morote	Moret, A.	Ricard, E.	Tibault, Thibault
Berthelemy, Jean	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Duboclet, E.	Lecouvreur, A.N.	Moret, J.	Ricard, Emile	Tibault, Thibault
Bertrand, Theophile	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Duboclet, E.	Lehblanc, Aristide	Nelson, J.	Robert, Alexander	Tibault, Thibault
Betancour, Joaquin	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Duboclet, E.	Lehblanc, Joseph	Nishbet, John	Robertson, Charles	Tibault, Thibault
Bevereotte, Dujour	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Duboclet, E.	Lehblanc, Joseph	Nobee, George	Roberts, Charles	Tibault, Thibault
Bevereotte, A.	Castaen, Manuel	Deslarde, Armand	Duboclet, E.	Lehblanc, Joseph	Norwood, G.S.	Robin, Edward	Vidal, A.
Bibile							