From: **B Nichols (Gmail)**
Subject: Summary of 1842 Jenkins v. Leachman - Detention of Jenkin's slaves
Date: October 3, 2024 at 10:31 AM
To:
Bcc: B Nichols (Gmail)

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Platte County Circuit Court July Term 1842

Richard H. Jenkins vs. James Leachman “Detinue” “Case refers to slave boys Sam and Henry”

05/20/1842: Jenkins’ Declaration/Petition

> Richard H. Jenkins complains of James Leachman of a plea that he render to the said Richard Jenkins certain slaves of the said Richard H. Jenkins of a great value XX it of the value of $1300 which he unjustly detains from him.
>
> For that whereas the said Plaintiff heretofore to wit on the first day of July in the year of our Lord 1841 at the County of Platte aforesaid, was lawfully possessed of certain slaves, to wit:
>
> One Negro boy slave named Sam of great value to wit of the value of $650 and also one Negro boy slave named Henry of great value to with of the value of $600, as of his own property, and being so possessed thereof, XXXX said Plaintiff afterwards to with on the day and year aforesaid at the County aforesaid, casually lost the said slaves out of his possession and the same afterwards, to wit, are the day and year aforesaid the county aforesaid came to the possession of the said Defendant by finding;
>
> Yet the said Defendant well knowing that the said slaves to be the property of the said Plaintiff, and of the right to belong and appertain to him, hath not as yet delivered the said slaves or either of them to the said Plaintiff, although he was afterward to wit on the day and year aforesaid requested by the said Plaintiff so to do but hath hitherto wholly refused so to do and hath detained and still doth detain the same from the said Plaintiff to wit at the County aforesaid.
>
> Do the damages of the said Plaintiffs of $1350 dollars and therefore he brings this suit. Burnett Hudgins, Atty for Plaintiff

05/20/1842: Summons to James Leachman to appear on July 11, 1842, to answer Jenkins’ action of detinue. Service by Sheriff Jones H. Owen on Leachman by reading on May 26, 1842.

07/12/1842: Leachman’s Answer to Jenkin’s Petition

> "I, James Leachman, Defendant in the above cause, make oath and state that the Plaintiff has no first cause of action against him, that the said Plaintiff has no merit in this suit and that this Defendant has a good and meritorious defense and that he has goo reason to believe and does verily believe that this suit was brought for vexation and to put affiant to costs and expenses unnecessarily.” signed James Leachman, sworn & subscribed in open court July 12, 1842, Jesse Morin, Clerk

07/12/1842: Leachman’s Motion for Costs

> The Defendant Leachman comes and moves the Court to rule that Plaintiff give security for costs in this cause and assigns the following reasons therefore;
> First that the Plaintiff is insolvent and unable to pay the costs of this suit if they should be adjudged against him

adjudged against him.
Second that his place of residence is so uncertain and his situation so unsettled that the Defendant, Officers of the Court and the witnesses are in danger of losing their fees and costs, etc. A.W. Doniphan, Atty for Defendant

07/14/1842: Leachman's Plea of Non-Detinue

And the said Defendant James Leachman by his attorney comes and defends the wrong and injury when he and says that he does to detain the said goods and chattels, negro slaves in the said Declaration, specifically or any or either of them on any part thereof in manner and form as the said Plaintiff hath thereof complained against him and of this he then said Defendant puts himself upon the County and Court. A.W. Doniphan, Atty for Defendant

Best,
Bill Nichols
(Please note & reply to my new email address -