

To the Honourable the Speaker & Gentlemen of
the house of Delegates —

George Brent & Robert

Brent humbly shew that upon the 27th of April
1776 your Petitioners had each a Slave condemn-
ed by the County Court of Stafford for Felony,
which the late hon^{ble} Convention thought proper
to pardon, but as they had made an attempt
to escape to the Enemy they were ordered to be
employed in the Lead-mines, & your Petitioners
to receive a reasonable hire for their Labour.

Your Petitioners beg leave to farther shew
your hon^{ble} House that the wages they are to
receive are not to them equal to the Labour
of the s^d Slaves and as there is not so great
danger of their escaping at this time as when
the former Resolution of Convention pass'd
they pray the Slaves may be returned to them
with their wages ~~and their wages~~, or if it is more
for the Interest of the Common Wealth, that
they may receive the Valuation of the Slaves
with their s^d wages & the property become
vested in the Country — & they as in Duty
bound shall pray &c.

Messrs Brentis

1776 Oct: 30.

Ref^d to Prop^{ns}

(reasonable)

Accepted