

Col. Charles Benzoni

Comd'g Post Plymouth N.C.

The undersigned colored citizens of Roanoke Island N.C. having received orders to remove from the lands of I.C. Meekins and others respectfully request a short extension of time. It being midwinter and having to be thrown out without shelter, our suffering must be very great. Also the season for Shad fishing, an occupation which we nearly all follow for a living comes in direct conflict with said order we being constantly engaged in filling our nets, boats, &c. If in your judgement you can show us a little leniency and give us till the middle of May or the first of June next, we promise faithfully and pledge ourselves to vacate every foot of said lands by that time.

At a public meeting held on the 23rd Decr, 67 the following named colored citizens were appointed, viz.: Benjamin D. Midgett, Joseph Tillett, and Richard Davis, to wait upon you and set forth our greaviencies [grievances] and pray you to consider our condition. Hoping you will show mercy towards us we do ever pray, &c.

George Baum
James Baum
Richard Etheridge
W. F. Cobb
Benjamin D. Midgett
John Wescott
Leon Bembery
Richard Davis
Benjamin Mann X
Jeremiah Green X
George W. Bowzer X
Edward Baxter X
John Baum X
Dempsey Baum X
Fields Midgett X
Riley Midgett X
Jeffrey Baxter X
Henry Daniel X
Spencer Bowzer X
Benjamin Ashbee X
Stephen Mann X
Miles Tillett X
Adam Miller X
Isaac Daniel X
George Hayes X
Sampson Snowden X
Henry Martin X
Zachary Taylor X
Alanda Boyle X

Julius Perkins X
Dempsey Divers X
Samuel Midgett X
William Toodle X
Levi Tillett X
Mingo Spruill X
David Lindsey X
Luke Wise X
Pompey Woodhouse X
John Meekins X
Joseph C. Bowzer X
William Riley X
G. R. Midgett X
John Tillett X
Benjamin Midgett X
William B. Davis X
William Barnett X
Jeremiah Davis X
Edward Wise X
Joseph Tillett X
John Freeman X
James D. Midgett X
Harmon McCleese X
Francis Simmons X
Jacob Ashbee X
Henry Ashbee X
Jesse Simmons X
Frank Tillett X
Rowan White X
David Bowzer X
Robert Simmons X
Sam'l Etheridge X
Samuel Owens X
Wm Bailey Daniel X
Thomas Hill X
David Owens X
Francis Turner X
Aaron Turner X

[George Baum et al. to Col. Charles Benzoni, Commanding Officer, Post of Plymouth, North Carolina {December 1867}, Letters Received, Headquarters, Records of the Assistant

Commissioner for North Carolina, Record Group 105, series 2452, Microfilm 843, reel 11,
National Archives.]