

Now Before The Honorable John Calhoun Judge  
of the Ohio Circuit Court on the 24<sup>th</sup> day of  
March 1845

Joseph a free Man of Color Commonly called Joe  
Craw Complainant

Thomas Hudson &  
Charles & Simmons Exors. of George Struck decd  
Murray & Belt Defts

In Reply

Do it Remember that heretofore I was on the 5<sup>th</sup>  
day of August in the Year of our Lord eight-  
teen hundred and forty four The Complainant  
tendered and filed in the clerks office of the Ohio  
Circuit Court his Bill which Bill reads in  
the words and figures following, To wit,

To The honorable the Judge of the Ohio Circuit  
Court in Chancery sitting Humbly Complainant  
sheweth unto Your Honor Your Orator Joseph a  
free Man of Color Commonly called Joe Craw  
that on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of December 1839 he  
then being a Slave agreed with his then Master  
Murray & Belt for his Freedom at a future period  
but his Master requiring security of him for the  
price agreed to be given it was agreed between  
them and a certain George Struck that said Belt  
would make a Bill of Sale to Struck for Your  
Orator & that Struck should receive Bond to Belt  
to give Your Orator security for the Money & when Your

Bill