

Mobile Bay 10th 1859

Sir Excellency
Governor A. B. Moore
Dear Sir,

Accompanying this letter I send you the petition of Mrs Martha Morris to be relieved of the payment of \$200 recovered against her upon a forfeited bond in the Circuit Court of Calhoun County on the 29th of Nov. 1858 - at the time when the principal - her son - was dead -

also the certificate of the Sheriff of Mobile showing when the notice was served and when execution was

received — also the
recommendation of a
few gentlemen in her
favor —

The case is one of
great hardship upon
her & I trust your ex-
cellency will see it in
that light.

I shall
forward these papers to
Murengo for additional
necessary certificates

The return day
of Murengo approaches
soon & I must beg
your excellency's im-
mediate attention

with great respect
your friend & obedt. servt.



Chas. P. Robinson

To His Excellency Andrew B Moore
Governor of The State of Alabama

Your petitioner Martha Morris
would respectfully show to your
excellency that she signed an
appearance bond for her son
William J. Morris, to answer to an
indictment against him for
gaming (as she believes) in the
Circuit Court of Etowah County

It would seem that
her son failed to appear, for,
on the 31st of August A.D.
1858, (as she is informed by the
Sheriff of Mobile County and believe
but of which she has now no
recollection) she was served
with the notice of a sci. fa.
to appear at the next term
of said Court of Etowah County
to show why judgment against
her should not be made final

And, now, the Sheriff
of Mobile County, has in his
hands an execution from
the Circuit Court of Etowah
County, demanding of
her the sum of 200 dolls

judgment and $14\frac{60}{100}$ dolls cost,
upon what purports to have
been a judgment final
rendered against her on the 29th
day of November A.D. 1858,

In view of the premises
she begs leave to present the
following facts & consideration
1st / On the 31st of August 1858
when notice of the Sci. fu. was
served upon her she was
living in a populous part of
the City of Mobile - a lone
widow - keeping a boarding-
house & having upon her
sole and unassisted care, a
family with boarders amounting
to 14 or 15 white persons, besides
servants,

The yellow fever was
then at its height & gloom
and sadness shrouded this
afflicted city. She had sick-
ness at the time in her family
and under the care, anxiety
and fear that oppressed her
she must have lost sight
of the notice given her, for
she has now no recollection

of the fact.

On the 11th of October
her son William J. Morris upon
whose bond she had gone,
was taken down with the
fever and died upon the
23^d of the same month.

In her grief for
his loss she never recollected
that there was any earthly
judgment to which he was
required to appeal.

From the
4th until the 15th of November
sickness seemed alone to
inhabit her house - so much
so that it was closed to all
but the entrance of friends
and physicians.

Herself and daughter
were during this time pro-
strate with the fever; also
two gentlemen boarded
one of whom died) and one
servant were sick.

You Excellency will
not be surprised when she
solemnly avers that she
had not sufficiently men-

convinced from the depression
and sorrow of her recent
afflictions to be fully aware
that the 29th day of November
1858 required her presence
at the Circuit Court of Maryland
to establish that her son was
dead and relieve her from
the forfeiture which it
seems she has incurred.

The whole matter had
passed from her memory
and she was only reminded
of by the execution above
referred to, presented to
her by the Sheriff of Annapolis,
at a time when she is
informed it was too late
to have relief by applica-
tion to the Court from which
the same issued,

In view of the
above facts she must
rely upon the clemency
of your Excellency to relieve
her from the payment of
the said payment & she
will ever pray &c.

Subscribed & sworn to before me
this May 16 1853
William Brophy J.P.M.C.

Martha Norris

I do hereby certify that on
the 31st day of August 1858
Notice of a Sei fa from
Marengo County was served
on Mrs Martha Norris of
Ponville and on the 18th
of September 1858 a notice
of the same was served upon
G. J. Norris,

also, an
execution in favor of the
State of Alabama to the use
of Marengo County claiming
of Martha Norris the sum
of \$200 judgement and 14 ^{cts}/₁₀₀
advs costs was received by the
Sheriff of Mobile County on
the 20th day of March 1859
and was served upon or
notice of the same given
to Martha Norris some time
before the first of April
1859. The said execution
was issued from the Circuit
Court of Marengo County at
the same place on the
5th of December A.D. 1858

Wm S Shelton
Sheriff of Mobile County

The State of Alabama }
Macon County } J. Y. M. Moody

Clerk of the Circuit Court of said
County hereby certify that the exe-
cution referred to in the foregoing
petition was duly issued by me
as clerk as aforesaid on a judgment
rendered in favor of the State of
Alabama and against said
petitioner at the Fall Term 1858
of the Circuit Court of said
Macon County.

J. Y. M. Moody
Clerk of the
Macon County



I am acquainted with the
Petitioner Mr Norris, & think the
circumstances such as to render the
interposition of executive clemency
highly proper -

With great deference & respect
for the Governor -

I am &c

C. W. Rapier

I have some acquaintance with the
facts set forth in the petition of Mr
Norris, and I believe them to be as he
has stated them. Respy

Geo. A. Hitchcock

E. S. Dargen
C. M. Goodale

May 16th 1859

Martha Morris

Mobile

Five - \$15.00

Remitted May

31st 1859

Send & shipping

Merch Co

Received



Execution department

Montgomery 30 May 1859

It appearing to my satisfaction from the return filed on and affidavit of Mr. Morsha Morris, & the other exhibits attached, that at the time Judgment final was taken of on the forfeiture & recognisance of Mr. Morris - against Morsha Morris, that the defendant William Morris was dead, & that Morsha Morris was prevented by sickness, & the distance produced by Yellow fever Mobile, from appearing at Court - to make the proof of the death of her son W. J. Morris for these reasons one hundred & fifty dollars of the judgment is a complete order upon the payment of fifty dollars for costs & fees