

I know all men by these presents, that we Hugh Mercer (a mulatto man) and Sylvanus M. Bagby of the County of Schuyler and State of Illinois are held and firmly bound unto The people of the State of Illinois for the use of the proper ~~penalty~~ in the penal sum of One thousand dollars for the payment of which well and truly to be made. we bind ourselves our heirs. Executors and Administrators. jointly. severally. and firmly by these presents, signed. sealed and dated at Bushville this the 8<sup>th</sup> day of June A. D. 1843

The condition of the above obligation is such that if the above bound Hugh Mercer. being a man of Colour. shall not at any time become a charge to said County of Schuyler or any other County in this state as a poor person and shall at all times demean himself in strict conformity with the laws of this State that now are or hereafter may be enacted. then and in that case the above obligation to be null and void. otherwise to be and remain in full force and virtue

Taken and entered into.

in open court. in presence  
of William Ellis Clerk

Hugh Mercer *Seal*  
Sylvanus M. Bagby *Seal*