

**Affidavit of Patience Graves, Eyewitness to Seizure of  
Cesar Peters Family by David Prior and Other Southern Slave Traders,  
Regarding 1789 Petition of Cesar and Lowis Peters and their Family  
To Connecticut Legislature for Emancipation**

**Original Document On File at Connecticut State Library  
Hartford, CT**

**RG 1, Early General Records  
Connecticut Archives, 1629-1820  
Revolutionary War, Series I, II, III  
Volume XXXVII, doc. 260C**

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The Deposition of Patience Graves of Lawfull age is as follows that she was Present at the Time that Cezar & his family was Taken by Prior to carry of [off] & that Nathaniel Man [sic] was then Present and held a Drawn Sword in his hand and as I attempted to go into the House from whence the Negroes was Taken he shook the sword over my head and charged me with great anger in his countenance not to go in upon my Perrel.

(s) Patience Graves

Tolland County SS Hebron, January 5<sup>th</sup>, 1789

Then Personly appeard Patience Graves the Subscriber of the foregoing Deposition and Made Solemn oath to the Truth of the Same before me.

(s) Benjamin Buell, Justice Peace