

TO COLLECT, PROTECT, AND SERVE

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OLD-FASHIONED HANDWRITING

Archie has some documents that he needs to catalog, but he has to figure out what they say first. This one is about a slave named James. He was the slave of a man named William Armistead, and they lived in New Kent County. During the American Revolution, James worked as a spy for the Marquis de Lafayette. James petitioned the General Assembly several times after the war before he finally gained his freedom. After becoming free, he took on the last name "Lafayette." Help Archie by transcribing (copying) the following text from James's petition to the General Assembly:



To the honorable the Speaker & Gentlemen of the genl. Assembly,
The petition of James (a slave belonging to Will: Armistead
of New Kent county) humbly sheweth: That your petitioner perswaded of the
just right which all mankind have to Freedom, notwithstanding his own

Go ahead and skip the words you don't understand. How many words can you get?

*The writer of this document used the long or leading 's, a character that looks similar to an "f" but is used as an "s."

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