

[start of document]

To Jon[athan] Fitch Es[quire] Sherriff of New Haven County & keeper of s[aid] [jail] in s[aid] County

By authority of [the] State of Connecticut you are hereby commanded that the body of Jack Arabas [*Suggested pronunciation: **EH**-ruh-buhs*]¹ a Negro man now detain[ed] in [the] [jail] under your [custody] together with [the] time & cause of his being taken and held ^and discharged^ by you have under safe conduct before the ^The Honorable Superior Court^² ~~Hon Sam[uel] Huntington Chief³ ^Judge^ of the Sup[erior] Court~~ at [the] State House in New[Haven] in New[Haven] County immediately after receipt of this Writ to do & preserve what shall be by s[aid] Court ordered according to Law dated at New [Haven]

this 8th Day of Dec[ember] AD 1784

By order of Court Geo[rge] Pitkin Clerk

[end of document]

¹ The actual pronunciation is unknown as there are several variant spellings of Jack's last name. His name possibly derived from the Greek deity Erebus, "a personification of darkness in Greek mythology"

² This document contains text insertions indicated by the symbol ^ before and after the inserted text. The narrator should indicate that the words were added.

³ This document contains deletions indicated by a line drawn through the original wording. The narrator should indicate that the words were originally there but then stricken from the document.