

Play

Narrator: John. F Sanford, Dred Scott's present slave owner, will be played by Jeffery Handy. George T Curtis, the white representative of Dred Scott in this case, will be played by Akwasi Agyemang. Dred Scott, the hero of this story, will be played by Ian Berkly. And the Honorable judge Taney will be played by Eric Romero.

Narrator: Dred Scott, was a man with a thirst. This thirst could only be quenched by one object...Justice. and that is why he fought for it. He went to several courts, searching for freedom. at one time, he was freed, but he was dragged back into slavery. His last case *Scott Vs Sanford* was the most memorable. lets take a look at the reenactment

Guard: All rise for the honorable Judge Taney.

(Judge Taney appears, and sits)

Guard: Please be seated.

Taney: As all of you know, this case *Scott Vs Sanford* has caused quite a ruckus in the United

States. There is a chance of many people losing slaves and with them their property. I am eager to end this commotion with the utmost standard of justice.

(Sanford stands) Sanford: I am simply helping my dear slave, Dred Scott. On his own, he has no idea where to go or what to do. He can't even read or write. So Don't think of me as his master, but ...

(Curtis interrupts) Curtis: And I am simply trying ...

Taney: Order in the court, order in the court.
Sanford continue.

Sanford: Don't think of me as his master, but as his guide.

Taney: Curtis, you have the floor.

Curtis: And I am simply trying to say that because my client has had two years of residence in a free state, he is an illicit slave which means he is no slave at all.

(Scott clears his throat) Dred Scott: I've served my masters, all three of them with the utmost respect, heck I've even lived in a free state for years

Taney: Get to the point Scott!

Dred Scott: and thorough all of this, I've never run away. I think I at least deserve to be free if not a medal

Sanford: My slave is not even a citizen of the united states so he cannot sue in the supreme court

Curtis : I disagree. Even myself as a white man think that these foreign men deserve some amount respect. put yourself in his shoes a man forced to labor for another man without earning any pay This man working only to be sent from one master to another until he dies in a world he never even knew. Now this man this man that has slaved to get ahead

has a chance to be free and you are all going to try to take that away from him?

Dred Scott: None of you are real Americans. Your roots were seeded in Britain. But what were you fighting for when you got here in America? Freedom that's what. Now I too am fighting, not only for my own but for wherever freedom is questioned and oppression is employed. I don't think being an American is based on your color or race, but on your thirst for justice.

Taney: Nice speech Mr. "Scott" But despite this I know That blacks are such an inferior race, they have no rights as to which a black man is bound to respect. Therefore the supreme court has issued the decision that Dred Scott will return to slavery.
Dismissed!

Narrator: However, this unexpected decision did not last. A while later Dred Scott and his family were sold to Taylor Blow, the son of Dred Scott's first owner, Peter Blow. Taylor Blow freed Dred Scott and his

family immediately. But, sadly, Dred Scott did not breathe free air for long. In 1858, one year later, he died of tuberculosis. But his idea of freedom will ring in our hearts forever.