This is an agreement between Abner Blize and Nathaniel Bacon of St. Louis County, Missouri, regarding the ownership of a slave in the estate of John Bacon. Both parties bonded themselves to abide by the ruling of arbitrators selected in the case.

This “bond of arbitration” was a consequence of litigation regarding ownership of a young slave named Charles. The slave was apparently in the possession of Nathaniel Bacon, but Abner Blize, administrator of the estate of John Bacon, contended that the slave belonged to the estate. Blize and Bacon agreed to the appointment of William Orr and John Post, who, in turn, would select six arbitrators who would decide the case. Blize and Bacon further agreed to bonds of $600 each to abide by the ruling of the arbitrators.

William Orr, one of the men selected to choose the arbitrators, was a relative of Sample Orr, Missouri gubernatorial candidate in 1860, and is the great great uncle of the donor.

Index Cards

Bacon, John.
Bacon, Nathaniel.
Blize, Abner.
Orr, William.
Post, John.
Saint Louis County (Mo.).
Slave records—Missouri—Saint Louis County.