

child must have received personal injury. These are the facts. They require no comment. They speak for themselves. I believe I have stated them accurately; but I am willing to be corrected by Mr. Edward Handy, of the U. S. Navy, who was only a spectator, and a witness, as I hope, of the whole transaction. Gov. Carroll was there, but was not I think, in the room. He acted as any one who knows him would suppose, like a gentleman."

The above extract contains scarcely a truth. We pronounce every material averment relating to ourselves to be utterly untrue; & the whole publication a miserable libel, circulated for the purpose of creating a public sympathy where none is due, at the expense of private reputation. The facts of the case are these:—In the winter of 1834 '5, it will be recollected by a large portion of our readers, that Mrs. Virginia Polk by an act of the Legislature of Maryland was divorced from her husband Mr. Isaac Williams of Somerset county. The causes which led to that divorce are set forth in the preamble to that act; and with those or the conduct of either party, we have nothing to do. Mr. Isaac Williams has since died; and by his will he bequeathed the whole of his estate—doubtless for what he deemed good reasons—to his father Wm. Williams, Esq., whom he also appointed guardian to his infant daughter, now a girl of twelve years of age. This is the "infant" alluded to by Mr. Polk; & is the only surviving issue of that unfortunate marriage. Her father, with whom she lived until his death, which occurred about a year ago, was passionately fond of her; her education, during his life was entirely under his control, and her impressions of the mother, whatever they are, must have been derived from him, or from her own knowledge of the circumstances.—Be this however as it may, one thing is certain, that she is exceedingly averse to any intercourse with her.

Shortly after the death of Isaac Williams, Mr. William Williams, in virtue of the appointment in the will took upon himself the guardianship, and ever since the little girl has lived in his family. A few days before the occurrence of which Mr. Polk professes to give a detail, a writ of Habeas Corpus was served on Mr. Williams, commanding him to appear before Judge Spence at Snow Hill, and have with him the body of Virginia Williams the infant already spoken of. This writ was issued upon the petition and affidavit of Mrs. Virginia Polk, from which the fact that Mr. Williams was testamentary guardian was *carefully excluded*. Snow Hill is situated thirty miles from the residence of Mr. Williams, his health being feeble, and the weather at that time inclement, it was impossible for him to appear. Dr. Williams the son of Mr. W. and uncle of the little girl, with her, immediately repaired to Snow Hill accompanied by the undersigned; the first, Gen. Henry as his personal friend, the two last, Mr. Carroll and Mr. Crisfield, as counsel. The absence of Mr. Williams being satisfactorily accounted for, the Judge continued the cause till Monday following the 29th of August, and fixed upon Rehoboth Church as the place for trial.

At Snow Hill Mrs. Polk, at her own request, was readily permitted to see the child. Gen. Henry was the only one of us present at that interview, & so far from *not permitting* the mother to "approach nearer than the width of the room," which Mr. Polk has shamelessly asserted, he did all in his