

seated, and drew the little girl on her lap, she still clinging to Mr. Crisfield's arm and screaming most convulsively. Up to this moment no resistance whatever was made by us, or either of us. In a moment Mrs. Polk rose with the child in her arms, rushed toward the door, and uttered in rapid succession these expressions "I'll have my child! I'll have her at the risk of my life! I'll have her if I have to tear every limb asunder!" The design from that moment became apparent; it was to take off the child. Here was an "overt act." Mr. Crisfield, finding this to be the case and finding too that Mr. Polk was violating, or permitting to be violated, a promise, that no attempt should be made to abduct the child, implied from the place where, and the manner in which this interview was procured—seized the child as Mrs. Polk rushed toward the door and arrested her progress. No effort was then made to disengage the child from the mother, but an abduction was resisted, and at first he endeavored to dissuade her from the attempt in which he was joined by every one in the room except Mr. Polk. Mrs. Polk struggled violently, and Mr. Polk tried to loose Mr. Crisfield's hold, as he did Gen. Henry's. During this time, the child was screaming and calling on each of us to save her. After some time, the child looked up and seeing Mr. Carroll, who had but a few minutes before entered the room, called upon him by name in the most imploring manner, to save her. Mr. Carroll walked up to the child with a view of pacifying her. As soon as he was near enough, the child threw her arms around his neck, and struggled to release herself from the grasp of the mother. Mr. Carroll endeavored to remonstrate with Mrs. Polk, but was answered, that she (Mrs. P.) would have the child or die in the attempt—that she would have her, if every limb of her body was torn asunder." Mr. Carroll, then finding all persuasive means fail to cause Mr. and Mrs. Polk to desist from this violent measure, and fearful lest the girl should fall into convulsions from excessive fight, and seeing no probability of the child's becoming tranquilized, took her out of Mrs. Polk's hands, and carried her out of the room and up stairs; and thus was ended a scene, which was deeply painful to us all. On the one hand we had a mother attempting to seize her child from the legal guardian, against its own consent, and in defiance of law; on the other, there was an interesting child of uncommon intelligence, who had been prevailed on to see her mother by Mr. Crisfield and Gen. Henry's solemn promises of protection calling on us to save her, in tones which made our blood thrill in our veins.—Could we—ought we, under these circumstances, to have been idle?

That Mrs. Polk's dress was torn in the scuffle, we think likely; and as an accident we regret it, but how, or when, or by whom, we know not. The child states, she believes it was torn by her in her struggles to get released from her mother, which we think probable. But however that may be, we have only to say, that Mrs. Polk, by her own rash and violent conduct, was the cause of it. During this scene, Mr. Williams and Dr. Williams were out of the room, with a view of not embarrassing the mother or the child by their presence. Towards the conclusion, Dr. Williams was attracted to the room by the screams of the child, and arrived just at the time Mr. Carroll was carrying the child out of the room.