

down on Friday last, and now it is said they did not bind any after hauling several ox-cart loads to the Court House, besides several droves, be that as it may, I think they have come to the conclusion to wait awhile before trying it again. The parties who started this binding are known, and it may be that as the Orphans' Court did not give them negroes to work their farms, and they may not be able to get them in this county, they may apply to the society in Baltimore for hands to work their farms, but I hope that they be disappointed. Some of these gentlemen, I understand, have threatened vengeance on the few Union men of this county, because the few, as they are, voted for the adoption of the Constitution and for Mr. Lincoln, and one Union man has been killed already, but whether it was done as a beginning, and they intend to finish the balance, I am unable to say, as my information is from a source I would not or could not rely on, because it is from colored persons, although they can tell truth as well as any one else. But if this killing was done because the deceased was a Union man, it looks like there is some truth in the report. Would it not be well for the few Union men here to have some protection. In regard to the condition of the colored people of this county, if it is necessary to have an agent here, as I think it is, I wish you to send a copy of your order and by-laws to me, and any information you want, and I capable of giving, that will benefit the good cause in progress, I shall be glad to aid you. Please answer this as soon as soon as received, and address,

W. B.

*Prince Frederick, Calvert county,  
Maryland.*

*Endorsed*—"Relative to the binding out of free colored children against their parents consent, &c."

WASHINGTON COUNTY, NEAR SHARPSBURG, MD.,

November 22d, 1864.

GENERAL WALLACE,

*Sir*:—As various applications have been made to the Orphans' Court for the binding out of freed orphan children, and refused on the ground, that by your order the civil authorities have been superseded by the military, until by such