

HEAD QUARTERS, ANNAPOLIS, MD.,

OFFICE PROVOST MARSHAL,

November 15th, 1864.

COL. JOHN WOOLLEY,

Provost Marshal 8th A. C.

*Sir*:—In accordance with orders received from Col. Adrian R. Root, Commanding Post, District of Annapolis, Maryland, I have the honor to ask for information in relation to the binding out of negro children by the civil authorities without the consent of their parents, this thing is being carried on here by secessionists, (under cover of an old State law,) to such an extent that it threatens to take every able bodied negro boy, (without regard to age,) from his parents just at the time when they are becoming able to support themselves.

I have seen the order of General Wallace in the newspaper in regard to this matter, but have not received an official copy of said order, and respectfully ask specific instructions as to how far I can go officially in this matter.

I am Colonel,

Very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

GEO. W. CURRY,

*Capt. 4th Del. Vol.,*

*and Provost Marshal.*

*Endorsed*—“States that the secessionists are taking, (under cover of an old State law,) every able bodied negro boy in this locality, without the consent of their parents, wishes some instructions in the matter.”

BALTIMORE, Md., Nov. 1864.

*Statement of Mrs. Harriet A. Connaway:*

States that one of her children has been bound to John Hamilton Wolf, and another, a boy, to Stephen B. Dorsey. They were bound out the second day after the passage of the Free State Constitution, and were taken to Ellicotts Mills