I take the liberty to bring them to your attention, and ask that either you will have the goodness to send to the Provost Marshal's Department of this District (1st Md.) general orders as to the required mode of proceedure, or special instructions or directions to myself touching the case brought to attention—Coveys.

This case properly adjusted would be a precedent. and definite action in regard to it, or any other well known and defiant case would deter the Orphans' Court of this county, from longer being the agents by whom the wishes of the people, as shown in the vote adopting the new Constitution of the State, are by them as completely defeated in the case of minors, as though the old slave constitution was a power in the State, and the new was only as Covey declares it a "bogus affair."

Excuse the length of this communication, and believe me sir,

Your most obedient servant,
J. M. McCARTER.
Department Provost Marshal,
Caroline Co. Md.

Maj. Este,

Freedmens Department, Maryland.
Through 1st Congressional District Headquarters.

Federalsburg, *Nov. 24th*, 1864.

Col. J. M. McCarter :

A colored woman called on me this morning to write you that she had called on Mitchell Covey, in the presence of a white man for her children, that Covey had bound to him without her consent. Mr. Covey refuses to let her have them, there is one of them at James Stacks and the other two at Coveys. I write as requested.

Respectfully, yours,
CURTIS DAVIS.

Endorsed—"Respectfully forwarded to Wm. M. Este, Major and Chief of Bureau for Freedmen.