

out even having gone through the form of binding and acting under verbal instructions of the commanding general. I wrote her an order to appear and show by what authority she held the child, which order she burned in the presence of the party who delivered it, remarking that she would not read it for fear it would poison her," or words to that effect. I would respectfully request to be instructed how to act.

Very respectfully,

W. E. W. ROSS,

Lt. Col. Charge Freedman's Bureau.

*Endorsed*—"Requests to be instructed how to act in case an order requiring a person to appear at Freedman's Bureau is destroyed, the party receiving declining to read it."

No. 9 LAW BUILDINGS, *Jan. 23d*, 1865.

LT. COL. SAM'L B. LAWRENCE:

*Dear Sir*:—There are two offences chargeable against Miss Goodwin in this paper.

The contempt of the military authorities implied in her treatment of the order of Col. Ross is, perhaps, the most gross. It would be presumption in me to offer any suggestion as to the course to be pursued with reference to that. The commanding general will of course vindicate the dignity of the service and the Government.

The detention of the child as a slave as set forth in the letter of Col. Ross, is a direct violation of sec. 12 of Art. 4, of the Constitution, and the remedy is that the party "shall on conviction be fined not less than \$500, nor more than \$5,000, or be imprisoned not more than five years, and any of the Judges of this State shall discharge on Habeas Corpus any person so detained in slavery."

I have no great confidence that the judge would be very rigid in the imposition of the penalty, but any judge would promptly discharge the child.

Very respectfully, &c.,

H. STOCKBRIDGE.