

In Council November 27th 1794

Sir

We have received information from the Justices of Dorchester County Court on the Eastern Shore of this State, that a free Mulatto woman and her two children have been unlawfully transported out of the State by a certain William Goldsmith (alias William Smith) and Elijah Devall and you will perceive by the copies of the Proceedings which are herewith enclosed that they have been indicted for this offence in the Court of that County.

Our Information states that these men have gone to the State of Virginia and are now in Gaol at Petersburg on account of this transaction. Being extremely desirous that these offenders should be brought to trial, we request that your Excellency will with all convenient dispatch, direct that the abovementioned William Goldsmith (alias William Smith) and Elijah Devall be delivered up for the purpose of being removed to this State, to be tried on the Indictments found against them agreeable to the provisions contained in the 2nd Section of the 4th Article of the Constitution of the United States -

Your Excellency

We are &c

John A. Stone

Governor of Virginia

In Council November 24th 1794.

Gentlemen

His Excellency the Governor being too much indisposed to attend to day in Council, has sent to the Board the enclosed Papers which agreeable to his request, we beg leave to lay before the General Assembly -

The Honourable

General Assembly

We have &c

John Davidson Pres^t