

in some of our County relative to his title to him, the person having previously been the
said negro from another person: the negro did come and his master immediately
sold him to a foreigner, after receiving part of his freedom. I will thank you
for your opinion on the subject, whether Law compelled to surrender him or not
or had I better state the fact to the Governor, and see if he will withdraw
his demand: You will know the feelings of the Philadelphians relative to
negroes. A speedy reply will be thankfully received.

Thomas Keel Esq
Attorney General
Baltimore

I have the honor to be
your Obedt Servt
J. E. Evans

(Without date. Written at the
private residence of His Excellency, and
copy furnished by him for Recd.)

Excuse me

I few days past I received a communication from
His Excellency the Governor of Pennsylvania, requesting me to have
certain Arnold Jacobs of this State arrested, and delivered to Thomas Cooper,
in a charge on affirmation by a certain Solomon Templin and William
Britchett, that the said Jacobs did receive by false pretences, a certain
Sundry Sadler a man of colour, from the State of Pennsylvania, contrary
to the act of the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of the 27 of March
1820. It will at all times afford me great pleasure to comply with any
demand which His Excellency may see proper to make on me officially,
when such demand is supported by proper and legal authority, but in this
case I must beg leave to state that I apprehend said Sadler was the
proper of said Jacobs for life, and had never been manumitted or released
from Slavery. The only probable release appears to arise from a letter
written by said Jacobs to the mother of Sadler which is liable to be produced
at any moment. Should you be able to procure testimony that Sadler
was legally manumitted and entitled to his freedom, so as to justify me, I
will with the utmost satisfaction surrender Jacobs to the proper authority
of your State. Think not for a moment that I justify the conduct of
Jacobs, on the contrary, I think he has acted a very improper part, and
deserves some punishment, but I conceive the Laws of our State will not
authorize me to surrender him. I should have written at an earlier
date but have just returned home from a tour of official duty.

D. Paul Brown &
J. P. Norris Esquires
Philadelphia

I have the honor to be with
high consideration
Samuel Fletcher