

State Department, Annapolis March 5th 1857

To His Excellency,
The Governor of Pennsylvania

Sir,

By the direction of His Excellency the Governor of Maryland, I have the honor to inform you that the requisition of your Excellency, for the delivery of J. S. Mitchell, charged by the Grand Jury of the City and County of Philadelphia, with the crime of kidnaping negro boy Joel Henry Thompson, has been received at this Department, through Mr James Barber, the agent appointed by your Excellency in this behalf.

His Excellency the Governor of Maryland, is preparing a communication to your Excellency which will be forwarded by the mail of tomorrow.

I have the honor to be, Your Excellency's Obedt Serv^t
Thos. H. O'Neal
Secy of State

State Department, Md. March 5th 1857 ~

To His Excellency,
The Governor of Pennsylvania,

Sir,

On the first day of this month, Mr James Barber, the agent appointed by your Excellency, for that purpose, presented at this Department, your requisition for the delivery of a certain J. S. Mitchell, a Citizen of Cecil County of this State, who as it appears from the accompanying copy of the indictment, stands charged by the Grand Jury of the City and County of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, with the crime of kidnaping a free negro boy, named Joel Henry Thompson.

Shortly after my induction into office, which occurred on the sixth day of January last, I was called upon by Mr J. S. Mitchell, and advised of the probability of this proceeding, inasmuch as information had then been received by him of the indictment above mentioned. In that interview he made to me the following statement, ^{to wit:} in eighteen hundred or forty five or thereabouts from Cecil County, in this State, and took refuge in Pennsylvania - that she was gone in and about five years - that during her absence from this State, as a fugitive slave, she gave birth to a child (the name described in the indictment, as the free negro boy, charged to have been kidnapped) and that he through agents residing (I believe) in Pennsylvania, recovered both mother and child, in a peaceable and legal