

James J. Mitchell, of Cecil County, Maryland, authorized and appointed George F. Alberti of Philadelphia, his true and lawful attorney, to take up and secure in the jail of Cecil County, his negro Woman named Petsy Galloway, now calling herself Catharine, aged about twenty eight years &c, a fugitive from labor. This power of Attorney bears date, December 17th 1847. It is witnessed by John A. Rankin. It is acknowledged the same day, by James J. Mitchell, before John A. Rankin. It has also a certificate, under seal of the Cecil County Court, signed by George McCullough, Clerk of said Court, that John A. Rankin is a Justice of the Peace &c.

Armed with this authority, George F. Alberti succeeded in arresting the fugitive Slave, and secured her in his house; and that he might do nothing contrary to law, he took the advice of Mr Hugh W. Jener, a member of the Bar, and sent for a Magistrate, Ald: William Allen to hear the case, under the provisions of the act of Congress of 1793. The date of the arrest was August 14. 1850. The Alderman heard the case. The evidence amounted to proof, for the Woman confessed that she owed service to the Claimant. A Certificate, under the act of Congress of 1793, was made out to George F. Alberti, to remove the fugitive to the State of Maryland, dated August 14th 1850, signed and sealed by William Allen, Ald. &c

Under this process, the slave was removed to Maryland and given to James J. Mitchell.

I will now come to another branch of the case. Petsy Galloway absconded about the year 1845 (I am not certain as to the time) She met in Wilmington, Delaware, a man by the name of William Thompson, and was married to him there, by Andrew McIntyre, a white man. A week afterwards, they migrated to New Jersey, and had issue, a male child, born January 16th 1849, called Sol Henry Thompson. Both father and mother resided in New Jersey and were in the habit of visiting our markets in Philadelphia to sell herbs.

Generally when the slave Woman came to Philadelphia, she would visit the house of S. Frisby Price, with the consent of her husband, who was also an acquaintance. Her child, Sol Henry Thompson, was young and at the breast, and the mother always brought him along.

It was arranged, that when Petsy Galloway should visit the house of Mr. Price, that he should devise some means to decoy her to the house of Mr. Alberti, which was done under some pretence or other. This occurred, as I have before said, August 14th 1850, and the Woman had the child with her. The original intention of Alberti & Price, probably, was, to take the child, under the supposition that the child followed the condition of the mother. I say, probably, for you will perceive that the power of Attorney only claims the Woman, and I know nothing definitely as to the original intention.

But when the parties had arrived at Mr. Alberti's and the Alderman and Council &c. were present, Mr. Jener, the lawyer, suggested that the child had better not be taken away, as, under the law of Pennsylvania, the child was free, although I cannot see what the law of Pennsylvania had to do with the case. The law of the Union, or of Maryland, or of New Jersey, might