

these gentlemen and also a letter from Charles W. Hood, dated Sept 5th 1850, which Messrs. Mercer & Warfield had authorized him to write, which letter gave Snyder full authority to seize the four Slaves and run them into Maryland. When they discovered at Kline's tavern that they had the wrong men, so far as their Warrants were concerned, they were at a loss what to do, and Sanders went on ahead to consult Smith at Harrisburg, while Snyder was to bring the slaves on. Smith at once decided to hire a Carriage and go out and meet the Slaves and Snyder, and if he recognized them as the Slaves of Hood, Mercer & Warfield, to take them right through to Maryland. He got the Carriage, drove out and recognized the Slaves, put them into his Carriage took them through Harrisburg about twelve or one o'clock at night, and took them to Baltimore and left them at Donovan's Prison, and went immediately for their Masters in Carroll County. Mr Hood paid Smith \$500, the reward offered for his two Slaves, and Messrs. Mercer & Warfield sold their Slaves to Smith for \$600, and he immediately sold them to Donovan for \$1400, thus Smith made \$1300, by the transaction. Smith never paid Sanders & Snyder one cent of this money as I understand. But this is not all. Most exaggerated accounts of the matter were put in circulation here, and in January last Sanders & Snyder were arrested, on a Warrant issued from Lebanon County, on a charge Kidnapping four free negroes &c, they had to give heavy bail for their appearance, at the Lebanon Court, they gave me a true Statement of the facts, and I felt it my duty to go with them to the Lebanon Court with another Lawyer whom they employed here. They also employed a third Lawyer at Lebanon. We tried unsuccessfully to get them discharged and then had the case continue till April term for the purpose of bringing our Maryland Witnesses. At April Court, Messrs. Hood, Mercer & Warfield, with Mr Winters of Baltimore (Donovan's Clerk) came on from Maryland. Smith was subpoenaed but failed to appear. The abolitionists had employed a very able and unscrupulous Lawyer to prosecute Sanders & Snyder and he preferred a bill of Indictment against them containing 14 Counts. Charges of Kidnapping under our act of Assembly, at Common Law, carrying Slaves away without authority, assault & false imprisonment, Conspiracy, riot &c. We were three days trying the case in little German County, where prejudice was strong against Sanders & Snyder. The jury after being out 3 or 4 hours brought in a verdict of guilty of assault and false imprisonment and not "guilty on the other 13 Counts in the Indictment". We then moved in arrest of judgment and for a new trial upon the one Count. At our suggestion the argument of these motions was fixed for Monday the 26th of May next. I think we shall succeed in procuring a new trial on the single Count as the Verdict is against the evidence and the charge of the Count. But if we do not the defendants will be fined, and the costs imposed upon