

the harbourers of these slaves, had a right to feel themselves insulted."

The only instance in which this was done, so far as proved, was the transaction Chamberlyn's, where a black man said to have come from Maryland in the last 18 months was seized a little after candle light by men residing in the neighbourhood & carried off."

There was no proof to show that this man thus taken away was in fact free, & Judge Grier declared, on the trial, that was immaterial whether he was free or a slave. He said "if the master went into the house in that way at night he might be called & considered a Kidnapper; because he did not distinguish himself, from one, in his conduct, & it would make no difference, whether he was a Kidnapper or not." See printed proceedings page 288.

Now this whole doctrine of Judge Grier is in direct & flagrant opposition to the principles laid down by the Supreme Court of the United States, in *Prigg's, Pennsylvania* 16 Peters 613, where Judge Story in delivering the opinion of the Court says: "The clause (meaning the Constitution) puts the right to the service or labor upon the same ground & to the same extent in every other state, as in the state from which the slave escaped." Now if this be law, how can it be alleged that any wrong was done by the arrest of a fugitive slave, at Chamberlyn's, to obtain the reward advertised by the master & for his benefit, unless it can be shown that such a proceeding would be illegal in the state whence the slave had fled; I can only add in reference to this transaction at Chamberlyn's that we had, in attendance on the Court, a respectable citizen of Maryland who was the owner of this very slave, arrested at Chamberlyn's, & who was fortunate enough, in this way, to get him by his agents, even in the house of his harbourers, but after this intimation from the bench we did not trouble ourselves to offer the evidence. It certainly is strange that Judge Grier should thus disregard the solemn adjudication of the Supreme Court & judge the great constitutional right of recapturing slaves by "the insulted feelings & prejudices of the people, who harbour runaway slaves & work them, rather than by looking to the laws of the state whence the fugitive escaped, according to the rule laid down by the Supreme Court in *Prigg's* case.

But it is said to be the act of a Kidnapper for even the master to seize his fugitive slave, at night, in the
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