

behalf of Alberti & Price.

I submit herewith a copy of the notes of the evidence taken by Judge Parsons, before whom these cases were tried, & also the certificate of William E. Lehman, Abm H. Lee, Jos. W. Longhead, & Wm B. Haskin; also the affidavit of James S. Mitchell, a respectable citizen of Maryland, who was the owner of the negro woman, for the abduction of whose child, Price & Alberti were convicted.

I have already forwarded to your Excellency a pamphlet review, by Col Peter A. Brown, of the trial & conviction of these parties, which will without further commendation from me, speak for the ability & zeal of the writer.

The facts therein are fully certified by the accompanying statements of W. E. Lehman, Abm H. Lee, & Hugh W. Toner, & by a responsible publication in the Pennsylvanian, of 30th of Sept. last, herewith sent. From all these testimonials, as well as other sources of proof, I consider that both said Alberti & Price have been sentenced, & are now suffering unjustly, & that they are innocent of any offence against the laws of Pennsylvania, which are at all times controlled & regulated by the Federal Constitution when inconsistent.

I will very briefly review the facts of these cases. It appears from these documents, that a female slave of James S. Mitchell of Cecil County, in the State of Maryland, absconded with her paramour, a free negro named Perry Berry, that she left behind her in Cecil County, her husband & four children, one of whom was an infant; that said Perry Berry left, in different parts of Cecil County, two reputed wives; that the female slave of Mr Mitchell, with her paramour, fled to New Jersey, where they resided for some time, & where her child Joel Henry Thompson was born; for whose abduction from Pennsylvania Price & Alberti, were convicted; that said Mitchell, being ignorant of the birth of this child, had executed a regular power of Attorney authorising Alberti to arrest & bring away his female slave the mother aforesaid; that Price persuaded her to visit his house in Philadelphia, where she was seized by Alberti; that Alberti was unwilling to take her child, but she insisted on taking it, as it was an infant in her arms & in such a condition of ill health, as to require the mother's nursing; that Alberti no otherwise took the child, than by suffering the mother to take it in her arms; that arrived in Cecil County, he saw