

Governor
of Pa.
Brown

of Philadelphia
in regard
to the case
of Albert
Price and
the subject
of his trial
by a jury
of his own
state
to have the
determination
of the Supreme
Court.

Executive Department
Annapolis. July 21st 1852.

Peter A. Brown Esq.

My dear Sir,

I hope that you will excuse my great delay in replying to your very attentive note, in relation to the pardon of *Mrs. Albert & Price*, recently granted by the Governor of your state, and to the course, which you think may be pursued, to obtain from the Supreme Court of the U.S. an adjudication of the principle involved in the case. The extreme pressure of my official duties must be my apology for this delay. I know that you will make all due allowances for me, especially when you consider that, apart from the esteem which your distinguished reputation claims at my hands, I cannot fail to entertain for you a high regard, in view of the independent, just, and wise attitude assumed & maintained by you, in this matter. Had not Gov. Bigler granted a pardon to Albert & Price, our Legislature, now in session, would certainly, (as I am advised) with great unanimity, have adopted resolutions urging upon the Legislature of Pennsylvania, the propriety of granting a new trial, as suggested by me in my annual message. The prompt and highly creditable course of Gov. Bigler has, however, obviated the necessity for this, as far as Albert & Price are personally concerned, and, at the same time, has taken away the remedy proposed by me to our Legislature. You suggest now, that, for the purpose of getting the case before the Supreme Court, Mr. Mitchell should contract for the sale of the boy, with a non-resident of Maryland, and upon a breach of contract suffer suit in the Federal Courts. This course, would bring up the question and decide the issue. I have no reason to know, however, that Mitchell would consent to such proceedings. Neither am I prepared to say what endorsement the Legislature would be willing to give to them. My impression is that the boy Joel has been already disposed of by Mitchell. And, I am not prepared to vouch that our Legislature would consent to the institution of a purely fictitious proceeding, for the purpose contemplated. I will converse with some of the prominent members, and ascertain, through them, the sentiment of that body. As soon as I can speak definitely, I will write to you on the subject.

With very great respect,
Your Obedt. Servant
E. Louis Lowe