

half past eight o'clock in the morning, I was seized by two persons whom I believe to be Charles Bird and Sidney Clayton, and forcibly and violently thrust into a hack carriage, the door of which was immediately closed by the driver. That the question being asked why I was so seized, it was stated by the persons arresting me, that I was charged with stealing at the fire. That both myself and Peck denied having stolen any thing, and insisted that we had not been out on the night before, at which time the fire was said to have taken place. Not regarding this denial, handcuffs were placed by these men upon me—but, as handcuffs were about being placed on one of the arms of Peck, he was ordered to get out of the hack, and was told that he was not the man. Peck refused to get out of the hack, desirous to go with me, but at my request he left the hack to inform Mrs. Jackson, at whose house I boarded, of my arrest. The persons in the hack told Peck they would take me to the Tombs, where he might find me. After Peck left, I was carried to a hotel in Broadway, and then to the residence of Charles Bird, in Eldridge street, in the City of New York. The two men in the carriage who had handcuffed me, stated that they were going to take me to Long Island, and keep me there until they caught some other person. That then they would bring me back to New York and have me tried, but did not say for what they intended to try me. That at the hotel in Broadway, a man named John Lee came into the hack and said to me "I will pay you for all this." One of the men got out at the hotel when Lee entered the hack. On arriving at Eldridge street I was compelled to get out of the hack, go up stairs into a room, when Lee and Bird questioned me about the whereabouts of some person I know nothing of. After remaining about fifteen minutes, I was placed in the hack again with Bird and Clayton, and driven across a ferry in the East river and carried about ten miles to a village on the ocean beach. There I was placed in a room until Thursday evening the 22d instant, when I was removed to another house, about a mile and a half distant from that I had been first placed in. I remained there by force and restraint until Friday morning about one o'clock, when I was brought back to this city by officer Hulse, under the warrant issued by his Honor, John W. Edmonds. I was deprived of my liberty without any process of law. The seizure of me in the public street was done in a riotous manner, in breach of the peace, with illegal violence. From the time of kidnapping by said Bird, and his associate Clayton, on Wednesday morning the 20th instant until Friday morning the 22d instant, I was kept handcuffed and restrained of my liberty. When notice was given that officer Hulse had arrived with a warrant, Clayton hastily took off the handcuffs and asked me to get out of the window, intending, as I believed, to recapture me. I declined to go out of the window; went through the door into the adjoining room, and met officer Hulse.

I believe that Lee, Bird and Clayton and have *entered* into a conspiracy to kidnap me and carry me away out of the State of