

New York. That Lee has promised to indemnify Bird and Clayton against any harm they might suffer from violation of the laws of the State of New York. That the intention of all these parties was to keep me in irons in this State secretly, and without the knowledge of the public authorities, until they had succeeded in kidnaping some other person. At no period since my arrest has any process of law for my arrest or detention been exhibited to me or alleged to have been issued. At the time of my arrest I was not a half mile from the ferry to Jersey City, and the train for Philadelphia which is the most direct route to Baltimore in Maryland, did not leave until nine o'clock, A. M. That I have been informed and believe that there were eight regular departures or modes of travel from this city to Philadelphia and southward between eight o'clock on the morning of 20th December and one o'clock, A. M. of 22d December, and there were other irregular departures. The village where I was detained was, I believe, Gravesend, on Long Island, and is in a direction contrary to that of any route leading to Philadelphia and southward, and there are no regular means of communication from Gravesend to Philadelphia.

his  
JOSEPH X BELT.  
mark.

Sworn to before me this 20th day of December, 1848.

HENRY VANDERWORT,  
Clerk of Sessions, &c.

(ENDORSED.)

December 26, 1848.

On these allegations being filed, Mr. Whiting prays that Belt be delivered to his master.

Mr. Whiting demurs generally to this allegation.

*City and county of New York, ss.*

Theodore C. Shadbolt, of the City of New York, being duly sworn, saith that yesterday morning in conversation with the colored boy, Joseph Belt, the annexed process named, he told deponent that he did not want to go back with his master again—that his master had brought him up from a child. He did not tell deponent who his master was, or where he came from.

THEODORE C. SHADBOLT.

Sworn to before me this 23d day of December, 1848.

J. W. EDMONDS.

*State of New York, City and County of New York, ss.*

William Hunkey, of Gravesend, King's county, Long Island, being duly sworn, doth depose and say that Joseph Belt the colored boy now here present in court, voluntarily told deponent that he was a slave in the State of Maryland, that his master had brought him to Baltimore to sell—that there he found an opportunity to runaway and that he did so—and went to a place called Lynn