

ble, and he said that I would have to employ a lawyer to prove that the binding of the children were not right. I went then. He thought I could have them, and I asked the lawyer about it, and he said that he could get them for me if I would pay him ten dollars a case, which would be thirty dollars. I thought I would first see you, and if you could not do anything for me, then I would employ him. My two youngest was bound the day before the New Constitution, and the other one was bound on the same day of the New Constitution.

JOHN DENNIS,

Snow Hill, Worcester county, Maryland.

Endorsed—“Makes statement concerning his three children, one of whom was bound out the day before the adoption of the New Constitution, and the other one the day of its adoption.

“States that a lawyer has offered to get them for him if he would pay him \$10 a case, which would be \$30. Thought he would first make enquiry of the Major General commanding.”

BALTIMORE, Dec. 6th, 1864.

TO GEN. WALLACE:

Hon. Sir:—I take this opportunity to write a few lines to you to know if there is no way for me to get my children that are now in Worcester county bound down in slavery to their former owner. I asked him for them last week, but he let me know that I could not have them, and then he wanted to know what I wanted with them. I told him what I wanted with them, and he said that he considered the children the children of his negro woman, and he meant to keep them and do by them as he has done by his slaves in the past, and no better than he done by them, and teach them what he intend for them to know, and no more than he intend them to know. I went to the Provost Marshal, and he told me that you he thought would take hold on it soon, but my children are naked, and I am able to clothe them as soon as I can get them. *Hon. Sir*, will you give me some satisfaction if you please.

They are in the hands of their owner, Irving Spence, Snow Hill, Worcester county. Please answer me if you please.

JOHN DENNIS.

I will wait for—Direct your letter to Dallas st., No. 95.