

## STATEMENT OF MRS. J. SOLON S. LINTHICUM:

On or about the 18th of November inst., a man who introduced himself to me as Mr. Pyfer, came to the house No. 131, German street, in this city where my husband and myself are boarding, to see about two negro children which he said I had, representing himself as the former master of their mother. He asked if I had the girl, I brought the girl down to him. I asked him if he wanted to take the girl away with him, he said no, that it was not then convenient for him to do so, that the boats were not then running. He wanted to know then whether I would keep the girl all the winter, I told him I would not he would have to take her away immediately; he then wanted to know whether I would keep her for him two weeks; I said I would and he went away with that promise. That afternoon a lady came to see me and introduced herself as Mrs. Pyfer, she said that Mr. Pyfer had made up his mind to take the child with him. I then recollected the advice given me by Mr. T. A. Linthicum, as stated by him and other friends, and refused to give the girl up to any other than her mother, telling her that when the girl's mother came the girl should be given up to her, as I considered myself responsible to the girl's mother and Gen. Wallace for the girl whenever she should be demanded by the mother. Mrs. Pyfer then left telling me that the girl's mother should come for her. This was the end of the conversation. I had never seen either Mr. Pyfer or Mrs. Pyfer before. With regard to the boy, I told Mr. Pyfer whom the boy was with, Mr. Harman, in Anne Arundel county, but that I did not know in what part of the county Mr. Harman lived, but that if he, Mr. Pyfer, could find Mr. Harman, I had no doubt Mr. Harman would deliver the boy up to him. I was merely holding the girl not knowing what to do with her until her mother should come after her, and had no proof that Mr. or Mrs. Pyfer were what they represented themselves to be. The girl cried when we proposed to take her to Gen. Wallace to be disposed of by him, and begged me not to do so, but to allow her to remain with me.

SALLIE LINTHICUM.

*November 25th, 1864.*

*Endorsed*—"A statement why she refused to give up a colored girl, held by her except to her mother or Maj. General Wallace."