

HEAD QUARTERS, 1ST SEPARATE BRIGADE, 8TH ARMY CORPS,

RELAY HOUSE, MD., *December 16th, 1864.*

Statement of the negro woman Caroline in relation to her son John:

Michael J. Dorsey has not endeavored to influence me in binding out my son John to him, but I wish of my own free will, to bind my son out to him if it is possible.

I also state that I did not give my son John to the care of Napoleon Dorsey, but that he came to the house of Michael J. Dorsey where I was living, and took the boy John away without my consent and against my wishes, and that C. H. Marsh sent after the boy at my request.

her
CAROLINE X GREENFIELD.
mark.

Witness,

RICHARD D. ROBINS,

1st Lt. 11th U. S. Infantry and A. A. D. C.

Endorsed—"Statement of the negro woman Caroline in relation to her boy John."

BERLIN, WORCESTER COUNTY, MD.,

December 6th, 1864.

MAJOR GENERAL WALLACE,

Baltimore, Md:

At the instance of several persons interested in the subject, I am induced to write a few lines to you to request of you some information with regard to the intended application of the order lately issued by you, respecting forced apprenticeship. Previous to the appearance of the aforesaid order, the Orphans' Court of this county in conformity with the existing laws of this State, had bound as apprentices to different individuals, negro children heretofore slaves, but manumitted at the time of the binding, whose parents were in some cases slaves and in others only the maternal parent. The point with regard to which I desire to inquire is, whether such cases, if the parents did not consent or were not consulted are regarded by you as cases of forced apprenticeship, and whether it is meant by the order to nullify and revoke them.