

## **Exploring Diversity in Pennsylvania History**

Pennsylvania with THE BALCH

#### Fugitive Slaves and the Underground Railroad in Pennsylvania

**Primary Source** 

# Journal C of Station No. 2 William Still 1852-1857

### Vigilance Committee of Philadelphia, PAS Papers, HSP

#### Nov. 2/54

Arrived- John Cannon- old name London Davis- John is about 21 yrs of age- black. Tall, rather of a round built. Was owned by Wm. Watson, who resided at Cedar Neck near Milford – from whom John fled the later part of last August. John left two Bros. & one sister in slavery. The eldest Bros. is John Davis, youngest Bro. Geo. Davisboth belong to Thos. Davis-blind man.

John left before because he feared that he was to be sold, besides he had faired badly- had been beaten, starved &c- John's father-in-law Andrew Wismen Milford.

To 2 ½ days board	\$1.25
" Cash	2.00
	\$3.25

### May 19th 56

Mr. Wm Still

Dear Sir

I take this opportunity of writing you a few lines to let you know that after I left you I got along well, I am not at work where I get twelve dollars per month. Probably you have forgot me and to let you know who I am I will state that I came to your house about the 1<sup>st</sup> of November 1854 in the evening-you will remember that Mr. Blow, who went to New Bedford was there at the same time and that you went with me to one of my acquaintance who assured you that I was a fugitive, his ... who was also acquainted with my father & mother & you took me to George Davis next door to big Wesleyan Church You recollect that you sent a letter to Lucretia Tilman stating to her that a friend wished to see her & she did not come. Also that I mentioned the name Jacob Williams whom Jacob Cannoli raised- & who made his home at Lucretia Tillman's when I was in Philadelphia- I am well acquainted with Cresey Cannon & Mary Cannon- I need not say anymore to let you know who I am- I wish you would ask Jacob Wil. how mother gets along in Delaware at a place called Milford. My mother's name is Grace Mindsmore- I wish you would write me as soon as you can after you have got some information about my mother & friends in Delaware- I am very anxious to hear from my old home- don't neglect to write- I have written a number of letters but have not heard a word from my people- you will recollect that you wrote my name that I bore when at home- London Davis- also that I told you I would change my name to John Cannon- this is the name by which I go now- please do not forget to write me to this place.

Senneto- Cayuga Co. NY Your friend, John Cannon