Journal C of Station No. 2
William Still
1852-1857
Vigilance Committee of Philadelphia, PAS Papers, HSP

June 29th 1855

Arrived- (2) Richd Green (new name Wm Smith) & his Bro. Geo. arrived from Baltimore where they had been owned by Geo Chambers. Richd is about 25, his Bro. Geo. 23- both are well made, rather tall, dark chestnut color, intelligent. They were caused to escape because they had been denied the privilege of going to visit their Parents any more.

The master, about 30 yrs ago when living in Cabot Co. released Dina to her husband (the mother of these boys) of all claim, and gave her writings signed & witnessed by his wife’s mother, Mary Ann Meed. The masters motives in releasing her was merely to get out of M. of her; Dina being in miserable health with no signs of recovery was a fit subject in the Master’s opinion to set free. He was particular to give the paper of release So in case the law should require him to look after her he would be prepared for his defense.

Dinna was then the wife of a Slave by the name of Jacob Green, then owned by Nathan Childs for a term of years only- after the father’s time expired, he moved with his wife, Dinna to Baltimore- where her health, in the course of a few yrs. improved, and She become the Mother of another child, boy. The boy grew finely in the hands of its parents, unmolested, until a little over a year ago when her old master got wind of the existence of the child (having himself moved to Baltimore with his slaves) and very slyly to approach the house taking Geo. with him. He was no sooner in before he wished to know of Dinna whose child was this, pointing to the little boy- ask Jacob was the reply of the Mother, the question was then put to the Father, to which he replied: I did not think that you would request any thing like that of him. He had the priviledge1 of any one he pleased in his house- “Where is he from” inquired the master “I have a right to have who I please in my house He is mine replied the Father. I am my own man” replied the slave master, “I found out whose it is presently I am going to take it home with me seizing the little fellow, at the same time ordering Dinna to put his clothes on, the father by this time had also seized his son, and told the slave holder to take notice that he was not in the country pulling an hauling people about &c. “I will have him or leave my heart’s blood in the house, was the savage answer of the monster- he also threatened to shoot the father. In the midst of the excitement Geo. called in two officers to settle the difficulty. The officers inquired of the slaveholder to know what he was doing there. “I am after my rights, this boy” ans’d2 the master. Have you ever seen it inquired the officers. No, said the master. How do you know he belongs to you then? I believe he is mine” said the savage. All were then taken before Alderman3. Before the Alder The father owned the child but the mother did not- the child was then given to its father- the master then thought he would gain some satisfaction at least, then claimed the mother, proceedings being thrown in court nearly 1 year transpired before the trial was concluded. Happily, however, by the mother’s having carefully preserved her the release given her, the court pronounced her free, about two mos. since.

---

1 answered
2 a member of a city legislative body
June 29th, 1865

Abedua (2) Richard Grant his Mr. Geo. arrived from Baltimore where they had been owned by Geo. 6 prisoners.
Richard is about 35, his Bro. Geo. 23. Both are well made, rather tall, dark complexion.

Colonel Teilgen. They were caused to escape because they had been burned
the privilege of going to visit their parents

The master, about 30 yrs. old, when living in Salt Lake Co. released Diza (the
mother of those boys) of all chains and gave
her pannings signed & authorized by his wife
Mary Ann Broox. The Master's
mother in releasing her satisfaction, for which
mercy to get out of Masters power. Diza,
being in miserable health with no kind of care.

Diza was a first looked on. The Master's opinion to set her free. He was particular to give the paper
of release to increase the law, should a person

Dive.
Exploring Diversity Through Pennsylvania Ethnic History

www.hsp.org
any one he pleased in his house.

"Where is my former owner, the Master? where is the house I
once lived in with my father?"

I was my own master. "Well, sir," the
atten. hunter, I found out whose it is at
present. I am going to take it home with
me keeping the little yellow, at the same
time ordering Diana to put up her clothes in
The father by this time had also joined the two
boys, and told the slave holder to take
notice that she never was in the County;
pulling an handling people about. I
will have him or leave my heart
blood in the manner that the savage
indians of the Moniteau. He also threatened
me about the farmer. In the midst of the
encounter was called in two officers
the little the he was out by the official
orders of the Indian office. What he
was doing these. "I am after my right,
said the slave holder. The slave holder said,
the Master. There you once been a negro
The Master. He said the the Master. Then.."
as you know he belongs to you ther.
I believe he is mine" said the savage.
All thought were then taken by the elder
man. Before the Elder the Father owned
the child and the Mother did not.
The child was then given to the Father. The
Mother then thought she would gain some
redemption at last. Then claimed the
Mother; proceedings being thrown in court.
Nearly 1 year transpired before the trial
was concluded. Happily however by
the Mother having carefully preserved
from the release given her by court
pronounced her free about two months.