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

Oct 21/54
Arrived, Chas. Thompson, age 40 Chestnut color, active, well informed &c. Bad treatment had driven Chas. to the necessity of making his escape. Adding to the natural promptings of his heart for liberty, he had secretly been much stimulated by the reading of Uncle Tom’s Cabin. In looking over the pages of contents, alone, he was finally aroused. Consequently he let himself to work to contrive a plan whereby he might escape. The thought struck him that if he could get a route as a paper carrier- he could succeed- he got his route & did succeed. He left a wife Mary Ann and two children, Emilia Ann & Louisa, all from and live in Richmond. Chas. was owned by the widow Thornton, who hired him out for $150 a year- at the end of each year. 50 cts was all the cash Ch. send as his portions.

To Cash and Board $4.75
Oct 21/54

Arrived, Chas. Thompson, age 40, Chanc. Col. active, well informed. No. bad treatment had driven Chas. to the necessity of making his escape. Adding to the natural love of liberty of his heart, the fact that he had recently been much stimulated by the reading of Uncle Tom's Cabin. His last hope of content, alone, dashed with faith and courage, consequently he determined to try to continue a plan whereby he might escape.

He thought that he could get a passage down the Ohio River back to the States and succeed. He left a wife, Mary, and two children, Emma & Allen, all in Richmond. He was supported by the kindness of the Hamilton family, who had lived in this country for 20 years. Mr. Allen and his wife each year 50 chaps of all the cash charged as his labor.

To cash and Board $4.75.