Circumstances alter Cases.

Freedom respects Law; Slavery tramples Law under foot. Freedom uses Sheriffs; Slavery, clubs and pistols. Freedom submits; Slavery commands.

Nearly three years ago, a gang of ruffians broke into the house of a colored man in Clermont county, bound him hand and foot, seized his wife and children, and bore them off from the husband and father, to Kentucky. Pursuit was immediately given, but it was in vain.—The woman had been living for a long time in Ohio, and all her children thus kidnapped, were born in this State. The sympathies of the community in this region were greatly excited. Thomas Corwin interested himself deeply in the case. Citizens of Clermont, without distinction of party, held a meeting on the subject. Mr. Fee, an old citizen, not an abolitionist, was despatched after the kidnappers, found them in Missouri, and made strenuous but unsuccessful efforts to recover the poor woman and her children. After a little while, the affair was forgotten, except by the heart-broken husband, and no one seemed to think it deserving of further notice.

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Cincinnati Morning Herald, April 30, 1845 Pg. 2, Cincinnati, Ohio, US
https://newspaperarchive.com/cincinnati-morning-herald-apr-30-1845-p-2/

The latest intelligence we have of the case is the following from the St. Louis Republican of April 8th. We call attention to the style and spirit of the paragraph.

"KIDNAPPING NEGROES.—Quite an excitement prevailed a short time ago in Platte county in this State. As the affair is stated, it is about this: An individual in Maryland willed a parcel of negroes to certain persons for life, with the remainder to other persons. Those holding the life estate removed to Ohio, and took the slaves with them without the knowledge or consent of those owning the reversionary interest. The persons having the reversionary interest, after the death of the persons holding the life estate, went to Ohio and brought away the slaves to this State. A Mr. Moore and Mr. Middleton, citizens of Platte, and interested in the slaves, were indicted for kidnapping the negroes, and a requisition made by the Governor of Ohio upon the Governor of this State. A writ was issued and they were apprehended, and upon a writ of *habeas corpus* they were released. The Weston Journal advises Mr. Fee, who accompanies the Deputy Marshal from Ohio, to leave suddenly, or perchance he may get a coat of tar and feathers, or something worse."

This is respect for decency, for hospitality, for the Sovereignty of Ohio; this is the regard for human rights, which is the proper offspring of the slaveholding spirit.

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