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ren were proportionately high. A simple half sheet of blue paper, eight by five inches, is one of the oldest records possessed by a Parkville resident. It reads: "Know all men by these presents that I have this day sold to T. C. S. Ashby a negro child named Laura mulatto color aged three or four years for and in consideration of three hundred & fifty dollars the Receipt of which is hereby acknowledged. And I do hereby warrent the said negro to be sound in mind and body and a slave for life. Lucien McDonnell, Parkeville, July 6th, 1857."

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