Platte County Circuit Court
Circuit Court
March Term 1851

Box 20 File 127

State of Missouri

vs

Black, William E
Dixon, James K

Dealing with Slaves

Accused of selling sugar to slaves w/o the consent
of their owners

In the Circuit Court

March Term 1859

Platte County to wit:

The Grand Jurors for the State of Missouri for the body of the County of Platte aforesaid upon their oath present that William T. Black alias James T. Dixon late of said County on the tenth day of February in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and fifty one at the County aforesaid did sell to a slave named Lucinda claims which claims to the Jurors aforesaid unknown to belong to Regan and claims other Communities to the Jurors aforesaid unknown without their and there having the consent in writing of the Master, owners or owners of said slaves for that purpose contrary to the form of the statute in such case made and provided and against the peace and dignity of the State.

And the Jurors aforesaid upon their oath aforesaid do further present that the said William T. Black and James T. Dixon on the day and year aforesaid at the County aforesaid did unlawfully receive from a certain other slave named Lucinda other Communities to wit one piece of gold coin of the value of ten dollars without the consent in writing

of the master, owners or owners
of said steam yacht Stiletto and the
said one, whereof said Stiletto is and
~~was~~ aforesaid at the time of each
and every and every of said
offenses and against the peace and dignity of
the State.

And the Jurors aforesaid upon
their oath aforesaid do further present
that the said William F. Black
on the ~~15~~ day of
~~June~~ aforesaid at the County aforesaid
and did unlawfully obstruct
a certain steam launch and the lawful
the property of one George A. Dennis
named Lee by then and there selling
to said steam launch certain goods, wares
and merchandise to the Jurors
aforesaid, of the value of four dollars
and eighty cents and receiving
therefor from said steam launch a certain
check of said William F. Black
drawn of the value and
amount of four dollars and eighty
cents without then and there
having the consent in writing of
the master, owner or owners of
said steam launch to the form of
the statute in such case made and
provided and against the peace
and dignity of the State.

L. Stephens
District Attorney.

State of Iowa 13. 18[illegible]

Jesse Moines, Clk

Recognized March 18. 1851

Subpa. Aug. 9. 1851
Recog to March/52
Subpa Feb 13. 1852

The State

vs.

William E. Black
Embezzlement

Dealing with Slaves

P.B. 600 604
20. 41

A true Bill

Jesse Moines

Foreman of the
Grand Jury

W. C. Jones
John H. Rees
James Thrasher

STATE OF MISSOURI } SCT.
COUNTY OF PLATTE, }

The State of Missouri

TO John Patton and James Christy

You are hereby commanded to be and appear before the Judge of our Platte Circuit Court, at the court house in Platte city, on the Ninth day of September 1851 ~~184~~, to give evidence between The State of Missouri Plaintiff and William E Black & James R. Dixon defendant s on the part of the Plaintiff

Fail not at your peril

Witness, IRA NORRIS, Clerk of said Circuit Court, with the Seal thereof affixed, at Platte city, the 9th day of August ~~184~~ 1851

Ira Norris Clerk.

State
vs
William E Black
& James K. Dixon

Dr Sept. 9. 1857

Summons
John Peters
& James Christy
Witness sworn
Clay County

Sheriff fee 1.00

Received on the 6th day of September 1857.
E. Shufeldt Sheriff

STATE OF MISSOURI, }
COUNTY OF PLATTE, } SCT.

The State of Missouri,

To John Ritner and James Christy

You are hereby commanded to be and appear before the Judge of our Platte Circuit Court, at the Court house in Platte City, on the 11th day of March 1852, to give evidence between The State of Missouri Plaintiff and William E Black & James H Dickson Defendants on the part of the State.

Fail not at your peril.

Witness, IRA NORRIS, Clerk of said Circuit Court, with the Seal thereof affixed, at Platte City, the 13th *day of* February 13th 1852

Ira Norris CLERK.

State
vs
William L Blank
& James R Dickson

For March 11. 1852

Summons
John Patten &
James Christy

Shff Fees $1.00

State of Mississippi The within named defendants James R Dickson & William L Blank are hereby summoned to appear before the Justice of the Peace for Beat No 1 in said County on the 16th day of February 1852, in Pontotoc County Mississippi. Given under my hand this 5th day of February A.D. 1852

D. McDaniel, J.P.

State
vs
Black & Dixon

The Defendants Move
the Court to ~~grant them~~
~~instruct the jury~~ instruct the jury
That they must find from the evi-
dence that defendants did deal
with this slave and others as a trader
before they can find the defendants
guilty - and a single act of so
dealing is not sufficient ~~and they~~
~~cannot find defendants guilty under third count~~
~~if they so believe~~ under the 3rd Count

Given

That though the jury may believe
from the evidence that defendants
clerk did sell goods to slave Dix
that they cannot find defendants
guilty unless such selling was
done by the consent & direction
or assent of defendants -

Refused

That there is no evidence
against Dixon -

Given

That if the jury believe from the
evidence that defendants request
to sell goods to said slave, without
~~that~~ ~~[illegible]~~ writing authorising
it and that afterwards without the
knowledge & consent of defendants
the clerk of defendants sold goods

& Adam they will find defendants
not guilty —

State

vs

Black & Dixon

Plaintiff moves the court to instruct the jury that if they believe from the evidence that defendants or either of them bought of or sold to a person from the plaine named in the indictment any commodity whatever without the consent in writing from his master owner or overseer ~~or that they or either of them dealt with said slave~~ then they will find them guilty.

Given

2nd That if the defendants were merchants dealing in pentown stuff and had clerks or friend whose business it was to sell goods to and deal with customers and that said clerk so employed by defendants sold to said slave as above then they are guilty

Given

3 If the defendants are found guilty the punishment is from 5 dollars