Platte County Circuit Court
Justice of the Peace
No term given. October 1855

Box 30 File 105

State of Missouri
vs
Nelson, a slave

Attempted Rape

- Accused of assaulting [redacted]
- When asked why he attacked the woman, he said "the Devil made him do it."
- Case transferred to Platte County Circuit Court

State of Missouri }
County of Platte } This day personally appeared
Russel Rogers and being duly Sworn upon his
oath States that on the 9th day of Oct 1855
one ~~Yellow~~ Negro Man Slave named Nelson belonging to
John Rogers. in the County of Platte did
violently and feloniously make and assault in
and upon the person of [redacted]
against her will then and there feloniously
make an attempt to Ravish and Carnally
know her the said [redacted]

his
Russel X Rogers
mark

Subscribed and Sworn to before me on this
the 10th day of Oct 1855

W. B. Summers. J. P.

Affidavit

of

Russel Bogus

State of Missouri
County of Platte } To the Constable of Pettis
Township Platte County Greeting Whereas
information has this day been given me
upon the oath of Russel Rogers That Nelson
a Slave did on the 9th day of Oct 1855
in the County of Platte Violently and feloniously
make an assault upon the person of [redacted]
[redacted] forcibly and against her will
and did then and there Make an attempt
to Ravish and Carnally Know her
These are therefore to Command you to
Apprehend the said Nelson a Slave and
forthwith bring him before me to answer
the premises and further to be dealt
with according to Law
Given under my hand this 10th day
of Oct 1855 WM Sumner J P

I do hereby depose & make
to Execute the within Warrant
Hon'd the 10th day Oct 1835 Wm Lewis J.P.

I Peter H. Wilt do hereby depose & say that the above
Wm Lewis J.P. Hon'd Oct 10th 1835 Thos Griffith

State of Missouri }
County of Platte } ss

The examination of the boy Nelson, the slave of John Rogers, taken before me William W. Sumner one of the Justices of the peace, within and for the County and State above mentioned, on this 10th day of October, One thousand Eight Hundred and fifty five, the said boy Nelson, being charged before me with the act of attempting to commit a Rape upon the person of [redacted] within the County and State aforesaid, on the 9th day of October A.D. 1855; and he the said boy Nelson, upon his examination, of his own free will and accord, and without compulsion or force, confesses that he is guilty as charged that he did, on the 9th day of October A.D. 1855 attempt by force to commit a Rape upon the person of [redacted] in Platte County Missouri; and further he saith not

Attest W. W. Sumner

Nelson his + mark

State of Missouri
County of Platte } To the Constable of Pettis Township
and the Keeper of the Jail of Said County
Greeting these are therefore to Command
you the Said Constable Forthwith to Convey
and deliver into the Custody of the Keeper
of the Jail of the County of Platte aforesaid
the Body of Nelson a Slave of Said County
taken and brought before me a Justice of the
Peace within and for the County aforesaid
and charged before me upon the oath of Russel
Bogus of Violently and feloniously assault
and make an attempt to Commit a
a Rape upon the person of [redacted]
[redacted] and you the Said Keeper of Said
Jale are hereby Required to Receive the Said
Nelson a Slave into your Custody in the
Said Jale and him there Safely Keep untill
he Shall thence be discharged by due
Course of Law
Given under My hand this the 15th day
of Oct 1835 W H Lucas J.P.

Joseph R. Lynch being duly sworn on the part of the State makes oath & states that on the evening of Tuesday October 9th 1855 just after he got home he heard some one making a great noise near my house say from fifty to one hundred yards from his house he heard some one calling Louis "Come here, Uncle Jo, come here, quick" — he ran down as quick as he could & when he got to the fence he saw Jno, prisoner, Peggy Nelson, running off at a distance of some hundred or more yards.

He then went on where I found Miss [redacted] & with her went back to John Rogers's.

When he came to where Miss [redacted] was, he found one of her earrings pulled out of her ear, & blood running from her ear. he saw her pick up the ear ring from the dust.

Attest
Wm. McNairClough

his
Joseph R. Lynch
mark

Subscribed and Sworn to before me This
9th 10th day of Oct 1855 Wm Inman J.P.

State of Miss
vs
Nelson Allen

Filed October 11th 1855
W. C. Remington
Clerk

State
vs
Nelson Clark } Indictment for an Attempt to commit Rape

A E Cannon Witness for the State of Lawful age being duely sworn states that he heard defendant State on being asked why he (defendant) laied violent hands on a White Lady he said that the Devil made him do it, and further more said it was the first white woman he ever threw down and if he could get out of this scrape he would not do so any more the above conversation took place at Capt Rogers in relation to the above charge, And further affiant saith not.

A E Cannon

Subscribed and Sworn to before me this 11th day of Oct 1855

W H Simms J P

Justices Costs		Constable fees	
Affidavit	25	Arrest	1.00
Warrant	50		
Qualifying Witness	10		
Filing Doc and Mod	.10		
Warrant of Contest	50		
2 Certificates	75		
	2.50		

S. W. Summers

In the Circuit Court
November Term 1855

Platte County to wit

The Grand Jurors of the State of Missouri for the body of the County of Platte aforesaid upon their oath present that Nelson a Negro man Slave (the property of and belonging to one John Rodgers) late of said County, on the first day of September in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and fifty five with force and arms at the County of Platte aforesaid, in and upon one [redacted] violently and feloniously did make an assault, and her the said [redacted] then and there violently forcably and against her will, felloniously did attempt to Ravish and Carnally Know: Contrary to the form of the Statute in such case made and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the State

Jas. Craig
Circuit attorney

Filed November 23rd 1865

State
vs
Nelson (a Slave)

Attempt to Commit Rape

A True Bill
R. M. Cottle
Foreman of the
Grand Jury

Witness
Jos Lynch
Sarah A Rodgers
John Rodgers