

fall will be seven years ago a negro man came to us (my master, Seneca T. P. Diggs, and the balance of the negroes) in my master's field. My master asked him if he had a pass. He said he did not have a pass. Master told him he could not let him go clear without a pass. He told my master that a man by the name of Burton raised him; that he now belonged to a man over the river by the name of Mc Donald; that he had a wife at Mr. Sam Brown's, in Howard County; that he was then going to Mr. Givens' to get Givens to buy him. Master told him that he could not let him go on that way without a pass; that he must go on up to the house, and eat dinner, and then he would go with him up to Mr. Givens'. He told master that his name was Jack. Just before we got to the house, the negro man broke and ran. Master told us negroes to run after him. We ran after him. Master said we should have the reward if we would catch him. While we was running him he took out his knife. We runned him around a good long while. Master would halloo all the time, and we would answer him. At last master met the negro, and I saw him cut master twice with a knife. I saw him when he run at my master with the knife. While we were running after him he said he would kill us if we came near him. We ran after him some time after he stabbed master, but could not catch him. The negro that killed my master was named Jack; he once belonged to Moses Burton, of Howard County, and had a wife at Sam Brown's. I knew him, and have seen him before the day he killed my master. This happened in Howard County, Missouri, in the United States of America, in the year 1853.

(Signed) PHIL, <sup>his</sup> X a Slave.  
mark.

Sworn to and subscribed before me, the day and year aforesaid.

(Signed) J. A. HOLLIDAY, J. P.

J. A. Holliday sworn, says: I live in Howard County, State of Missouri; have been there since the month of June 1829; I was born there; am a lawyer by profession. The 1st section, 3rd Article of the Act concerning slaves, Revised Statutes, 1845, for the State of Missouri, provides: Any person may apprehend any negro or mulatto being, or suspected of being, a runaway slave, and take him or her before Justices of the Peace. The 2nd section provides that the Justice shall take possession of and deliver him or her to the owner. The 18th section of the same Article provides, that any slave found to be more than twenty miles from his home shall be declared to be a runaway. The 16th section provides, that any one apprehending a runaway slave shall be paid the sum of 5 dollars as a reward if taken within the State, and 50 dollars if taken without the State, and 10 cents for every mile of travel in order to convey the runaway home to his master. This law was in force in 1853, and is still in force, in substance. I heard of the death of Mr. Diggs at the time it took place, and have not heard of the death of any other person there since in that way, nor for several years before. I don't know that I ever saw prisoner until the other night; I may have seen him, but don't know that I have.

(Signed) J. A. HOLLIDAY.

Benjamin F. Diggs.—I live in Howard County, State of Missouri, United States of America. I am 15 years old 30th May last. I am son of Seneca T. P. Diggs. He is now dead. He died in fall of 1853, in the month of November of that year, on the 11th, I think. The cause of his death was two wounds he received from a coloured man, who inflicted them with a knife, about 12 o'clock in the day. Father was a farmer. I was with father when he was stabbed, about five or six yards from him. He was in pursuit of the negro when he was stabbed. I was with father when he first started in pursuit of him. Other parties say four black boys of my father's were following up. I was with father, and could not keep up, and he stayed with me. When he was stabbed he had got over the fence. When the nigger had got to him I was on the fence. Father was about six yards from the fence. Saw him stab father. There was nobody with the man or father but me. I saw the knife; it was a long dirk knife. Father was first stabbed in the breast. After that, father turned to run away, and hung his foot in some vines, and fell. The man then stabbed him in the back, and then broke and run. Father got up, and walked a piece, and fell about fifteen or twenty yards. This was about a mile from our