

The State of Maryland, do ordain, that
a certain John Henry otherwise known as
been indicted in Harford County Court for
fraudulently and forcibly kidnapping
certain negro girl named Bell on the 1st
day of April eighteen hundred and eighty
and forcibly and fraudulently causing her to
be carried out of the State of Maryland.
Knowing the said negro Bell to be entitled to
freedom. And whereas a number of respectable
persons inhabitants of the said County have
recommended the said John Henry alias John
Ritchie as worthy of the participation of
Government. And whereas the said John
Henry alias John Ritchie has duly given
a Bond by which he binds himself to pay
any expenses that may be incurred in
bringing the said negro girl and her
issue if any, back into the State of
Maryland I have therefore proper to order
direct that all Vincennes at law, and
the said John Henry alias John Ritchie
for or on account of the same, and
and determine that no further proceedings
he had overruled on a point he was
on account of the same. Witness my
hand and the seal of the State of Maryland
this 1st day of December in the year of our Lord one thousand
eight hundred and eighty
By the Governor, Charles D. Smith