

After the object of the meeting was stated, Mr. Ruggles addressed the meeting at length, showing what [facilities] the laws of this state afford slave holders and kidnappers to reduce any colored [person in slavery]: how unprincipled shipping masters, and captains of vesse[l]s have [practiced] and sti[l] continue to practice, upon the unsus[p]ecting, tha[t] even colored person[s] were employed b[y] the kidnapping clubs at the [north] and south, [as] spies and betrayers, [and] agents to aid in this [nefarious traffic] in hum[a]n souls—American citizens, who are sold in Maryland b[y] the pound[.] He had the fact from [an] [u]nquestionable source—that one DAVID HOLLID[A]Y, a [s]lave, now is, or has been in th[is] city with a view of betraying, or inveighing m[e]n, wome[n] and children to slavery[.] that he ma[y,] by their blo[o]d [float] [enthralled]. He a [veried] to the suspicious case of *Thomas Tallibut*; and also to the m[ass] inhuman and barbarous treatment which *Eliza Drumblings* received from her pretended friends, *John Wallace*, of Staten Island, and *Ned Shores*, alias Ned Allen alias Edward Shorts, alias Edward Allen of Philadelphia. The former attempted to betray her with a kiss, when she was compelled to fly [f]or refuge, leaving he[r] effects behind; when the latter learned her history, he then took advantage of her pitiful and dependent situation, received an order, and obtained her property, amounting in value to more than one hundred dollars, and has withheld it from her at least two months; and is now, as he had heard, at New Orleans, or Mobile[.] For the want of clothing, and through the [fear] of being apprehended, the poor girl has suffered severely.

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suspicious character, who solicited the aid of a police officer to arrest a woman from the south, who, as she stated, to prevent such an arrest, obtained from a gentleman[,] and presented to the officer, a note, (which is now in his possession,) containing the following words: "The bearer, Patty, is a *free* black woman," &c. A committee was appointed consisting of the following persons, viz: Thomas Van Ransclear, John J. Washington, David Ruggles, Wm. Thomas, and Henry Butler, to wait upon Thomas Tallibut and bring him justice—After which it was.

Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting the treacherous conduct of David Holliday, Thomas Tallibut, [John] Wallace, and Edward Allen, towards [their] oppressed race and the hypocrisy of tho[se] who [vindicate and] justify them, merit the execration of e[v]ery friend of freedom.

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