

Mr. CHAIRMAN – I appear not here to defend the Rev. Samuel E. Cornish, I appear not here to stand in his shoes. He is able to defend himself with his tongue and with the pen! I wish to defend the Colored American, and to state facts concerning the Libel Suit with which I was connected and involved as publisher of the Colored American. I added a part of the initials to the inuendo published against Mr. Ruggles in the paper of the 19th of January. Mr. Cornish left it with "R. & R." I wished to introduce both names, Ruggles and Russell: Mr. Cornish objected to this, and I added to their initials R—s & R—I, as Mr. Zuel can testify. *Sir, when you touch my pocket* you touch a tender place! I wanted to add a note in relation to the \$17,50 which was pledged to the Committee for the Libel Suit, and which Ruggles appropriated to other purposes. [By Mr. Ruggles – Was it not applied to relieve certain *Refugees*?] – I don't know; but he applied it to his own use, as he was somewhat straightened at the time. I suspected that he had appropriated it to his own use – so when I called upon him at his own office, I said, Ruggles: *Where the Hell* is that \$17 50, which was pledged towards the "Libel Suit." He replied – We had to relieve some runaways, and the Committee will pay you. **HELL AND DAMNATION!!** That money was pledged to us for the Libel Suit! It is a damned roguish trick to use that money for anything else. Mr. Cornish objected to my publishing the note, calling upon Ruggles for the \$17 50. The Committee have said, that the Libel Suit is not theirs. *

Mr. Wright and Mr. Johnston both deny, that they have any knowledge of the meeting, at which Ruggles said, that they authorised him to employ counsel to defend the Suit. The whole Committee deny that the Suit is theirs; so Ruggles cheated us, and cheated the Committee. [Interrupted by Dr. Brown. – "Mr. Bell, shall we understand you to say, that the Committee did not foot the bills incurred by the Libel Suit, until after the verdict was awarded against you?"] Mr. Chairman, I stand corrected here. I know that Mr. Ruggles paid the expense of postponing the Suit at different times, and said that he got the money from the Committee; but the Committee have denied that the Suit was theirs, and most of the money that was raised was obtained through the columns of the Colored American, and from our own hard earnings. Mr. Cornish was goaded on to attack Ruggles, as he has *done* by his withholding the \$17,50, and his *damnable* insulting communications, and his Mirror of Liberty.

* Before the Committee had decided to sustain the Suit, Mr. Cornish called upon Mr. Sedgewick, and stated in the presence of R. Sears, that he wished him to go on with the Suit; that if the Committee did not sustain it, he would, and promised a retaining fee, which was subsequently paid by Mr. Sears. The Colored American acknowledged donations from Pittsburg, Pa.; Rochester, N. Y., and other places in behalf of the Committee. (See Colored Am. from 2d Nov. to 12th Jan. 1839.) The editor says, July 27th, the Suit is the Committee's – that the only feeling they had against the accused was, that he withheld the money, \$17 50.

EXTRACT FROM Mr. P. A. BELL'S SPEECH,
IN REPLY TO DAVID RUGGLES.

Mr. BELL rose and said—

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