To his Excellency the Governor of Missouri.

WE, the undersigned, urgently though respectfully ask the Chief Magistrate of the State of Missouri, to exercise the constitutional power vested in him, for the release of George Thompson, Alanson Work, and James E. Burr, citizens of the United States, kept now for about three years, and sentenced for nine years more, in the Penitentiary of that state, for no crime unless it be a crime to obey the explicit commands of Jesus Christ, that

we should "do unto others as we would that they should do unto us."

We believe that slavery is in itself an open and palpable violation of every principle of natural justice and divine equity; and that, therefore, no laws enacted by man to uphold it, can be of any binding moral obligation whatever. That the Slave is, consequently, guilty of no violation of moral principle in running away from his master. And if the slave is not guilty of moral wrong in making his escape from bondage, it cannot be that those who aid him in the act are guilty of a crime. These conclusions might, were it necessary, be supported by irresistable arguments, but believing them to be clear and self evident, we forbear.

We appeal, therefore, to your sense of justice, and respectfully ask of you in the name of bleeding humanity, to exercise the power vested in you for the release of the individuals

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