

Newson, Celia (aka Cely)

vs State of Missouri

1855

Calloway Co

356/14

578/24

murder by beating Newson, Robert

MISSOURI
1855

State of Missouri Callaway County S.S.

State
vs
Belia

Be it remembered that heretofore
To-wit At a Special Term of the
Civil Court held in and for
the County of Callaway on Wed-
nesday the 15th day of August
1855. The Grand Jurors for the State
of Missouri, impaneled and sworn
within and for the body of the
County of Callaway, returned into
Court on the 16th day of August
1855. The following Indictment a-
gainst Belia a
Slave for Murder in the first degree

Which said indictment is in the words following
To-wit: In the Callaway Civil Court August

Indictment Term 1855. State of Missouri County of Callaway
The Grand Jurors for the State of Missouri for
the body of the County of Callaway upon their
oath present that Gely otherwise Belia otherwise
Belia Newson a Slave late of the County of
Callaway aforesaid on the 11th day of June
in the year one thousand eight hun-
-dred and fifty five at the County of Callaway
aforesaid in and upon one Robert Newson
a free person of the State then and then being
feloniously wilfully deliberately and premed-
-itatedly and of her Malice aforethought
did make an assault and that the said
Gely otherwise Belia otherwise Belia New-
son then and then with force and arms and
with a large piece of Wood which she the
said Gely otherwise Belia, otherwise Belia

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Newson in her right hand then and then had
and held him the said Robert Newson in and
upon the head of him the said Robert Newson
feloniously wilfully deliberately premedita-
tely and of her Malice aforethought did strike
and beat giving him the said Robert Newson by
such striking and beating divers mortal bruises
and contusions in and upon the head of him
the said Robert Newson of which said mortal
bruises and contusions he the said Robert
Newson did then and then instantly die, and
as the Jurors aforesaid upon their Oath aforesaid
do say that the said City otherwise believeth
otherwise believeth Newson him the said Robert
Newson on the day and year aforesaid at
the County of Ballaway aforesaid in manner
and form aforesaid feloniously wilfully
deliberately premeditatedly and of her
Malice aforethought did kill and Murder
against the peace and dignity of the State
and the Jurors aforesaid upon their Oath
aforesaid do further present that the said
City otherwise believeth otherwise believeth New-
son a Slave on the twenty third day of
June in the year one Thousand eight hun-
dred and fifty five with force and Arms at
the County of Ballaway aforesaid in and upon
one Robert Newson in the peace of the State
then and then being feloniously wilfully de-
liberately premeditatedly and of her Malice
aforethought did make an assault and that
she the said City otherwise believeth otherwise
believeth Newson him the said Robert Newson

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aid then and then feloniously wilfully deliber-
ately, premeditatedly and of her Malice
aforethought, did cast throw and push into
a certain large fire then and then situated
and did then and then hold him the said
Robert Newson in the said fire, by means of
which said casting throwing pushing and hold-
ing of him the said Robert Newson in the
fire aforesaid by the said lady otherwise Celia
otherwise Celia Newson in form aforesaid, he
the said Robert Newson in and with the
fire aforesaid was then and then choked
suffocated and burned, of which said choke-
ing suffocating and burning he the said Robert
Newson did then and then instantly die
and so the juror aforesaid upon their oaths
aforesaid do say that she the said lady other-
wise Celia otherwise Celia Newson, him
the said Robert Newson on the day and
year aforesaid at the County of Calaveras aforesaid
in manner and form last aforesaid felon-
iously, wilfully, deliberately premeditatedly
and of her Malice aforethought did Kill and
murder against the peace and dignity of
the State

R. J. Pravitte, Cir. Att.
afterwards at a Special Term of the Circuit
Court of said County continued and held on
the 16th day of August 1855. It is ordered by
the court that John Samaras, O. B. Reed, J. W.
Bonbrun and Nathaniel Henry Esqrs be appointed
and assigned as Counsel for the prisoner, and
on Motion of the Circuit Attorney it is ordered
that William F. Powell, Daniel M. Whyte

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Witnesses
Recog
Mary Newson for him and for George a slave
David Newson and James C. Mainwell be recog-
nized to appear at the next Term when upon
they come into Court and acknowledge them-
selves to owe to the State of Missouri the sum of
fifty dollars each to be levied of their respective
goods and chattels lands and tenements, but to
be discharged and void upon the condition that
each of them be and appear before the Judge of
the Gallaway Circuit Court at the place of
holding Court in the Term of Fallow on the first
day of the next October Term, which commences
on the second Monday in October next, and shall
not depart without leave of the Court, and the
cause is continued.

Afterwards at a Circuit Court continued
and held for Gallaway County on Tuesday the
9th day of October 1855. This day came
the Circuit Attorney, and the prisoner being
brought into Court in custody of the Sheriff
and being required to answer the Indict-
pleas
ment, says she is not guilty in manner
and form as charged in the said indict-
ment and for her trial puts herself upon
the Country and thereupon came a Jury
Panel, Geo. Hosmer, Will R. Givens, Amos J.
Jury
Selby, Stephen Gilbert, Amos Loyd, Benj.
Sheets, Thos J. Pratt, Geo. Gilbertson, Amos
Craig, Amos J. Ficklin, Amos P. Selby and
James McAtee, who being elected tried and
sworn well and truly to try the issue joined
there not being time to proceed farther to day
the Jury is adjourned until to morrow

5 Morning 8 o'clock & delivered into the custody of the Sheriff, after being charged by the Court not to separate, and the prisoner is remanded to Jail.

and afterwards on the 10th day of October 1835. This day came the Circuit Attorney and the prisoner being brought into Court in custody of the Sheriff and the Jury having come into Court agreeable to adjournment and after hearing all the witnesses and the attorneys for the party retired to consider of their Verdict, and after some ^{time} returned into Court the following Verdict: "That the Verdict Jury find the defendant guilty of Murder in the first degree - and therefore the prisoner was remanded to Jail

afterwards on the 11th day of October 1835.

This day came the defendant and produced her motion to set aside the Verdict the occasion is ordered to be filed, and therefore filed on motion of the defendant she is permitted to withdraw the same, and therefore she produced her second motion to set aside the Verdict the same is ordered to be filed.

afterwards on the 13th day of October 1835.

The parties appear, and the motion to set aside the Verdict, being now and fully understood and mature deliberation thereon had. It is ordered by the Court that the aforesaid same be overruled.

afterwards on the 13th October 1835.

This day came the Circuit Attorney and

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The prisoner being brought into Court in
Judge Custody of the Sheriff, and the Court being
morally advised, do consider, order
and adjudge that the prisoner be hanged by
the neck until she is dead on
the sixteenth day of November 1835. and
that the Sheriff of Ballaway County execute
the foregoing sentence, and that the prisoner
be remanded to Jail and kept in close
confinement until the time of execution.
The defendant produced her bill of
Exceptions, which was examined signed, sealed
and allowed by the Court and ordered to be
filed and made a part of the record.

Exps
filed

and is as follows to wit: "The State of
Missouri against Belia a slave. In
the Ballaway Circuit Court, October
Term 1835. Be it remembered that on the
trial of the above mentioned cause in
said Court, the Jury were empanelled &
sworn to try the issue whether the defendant
was guilty of the crime of Murder charged
against her & that she having pleaded
not guilty to said charge and announced
herself ready for trial, & put herself upon
her God & her Country, the following Witnesses
were introduced on the part of the State
to testify against her. Jefferson F. Jones being
sworn, stated on his examination in chief
I went to the Jail to converse with Belia
defendant, at the request of several
citizens. the object of my conversation was to
ascertain whether she had any accomplices

Jones
sworn

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in the crime. This was 8 or 10 days after she had been put into the Jail. I asked her whether she thought she could be hanged for what she had done. She said she thought she would be hanged. I then told her to tell the whole truth. She said the old man (Newson the deceased) had been having sexual intercourse with her. That he had told her he was coming down to her cabin that night; she told him not to come, and that if he came she would hurt him. She then got a stick and put it in the corner. He came down that night. When she heard him coming she fixed the fire to make a little light. There was very little fire in the cabin, she said his face was towards her and he was standing talking to her when she struck him. He did not raise his hands when she went to strike the first blow, but sunk down on a stool towards the floor. When he sunk down she struck him with one hand & her right hand. The stick with which she struck was about as large as the upper part of a Windsor chair, but not so long. She thought she did not strike him the first blow at the time of striking, but thought now that the first blow must have killed him. She said she struck the second blow because he groaned & she was afraid he was not dead. His face was towards her when she struck. I told her that it had been said that she had said, she struck the old man while he was getting in at the back window of her house

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and that he had fallen back on the outside she answered that she had said so, but was in a state of excitement at the time, and that she had told him or their story about it, said he was standing in the middle of the room when she struck. I asked her whether she had told any one that she intended to kill the old man, she said that she never had, I told her that George had run off, and that she might as well tell it if he had had anything to do with killing the old man, she said that George need not have run off, for that he knew nothing about it. I asked her if George had advised her to kill the old man, said he never had, said that George had told her that he would have nothing more to do with her if she did not quit the old man, said that George had been staying with her, she said that after she killed him, the body lay a long time, she thought an hour, she did not know what to do with it, said she thought she would try to burn it, she put the body on the fire place and kindled the fire over & around it with some staves that were made for hog heads and over in the yard, she burned the body up and put some of the bones under the hearth and under the floor between a sleeper & the fire place, she said she took out the ash before day, I don't recollect when she said she put the ash. It was late when he came down late bed time, she doubled him up when she put him on the fire place
 Cross Examined by the defense. she said the old man had had sexual intercourse with her

9. Her second child was his. The deceased bought her in Anderson County, can't say positively whether she said that deceased had forced her on the way home from Anderson County. I have heard that he did, but do not know with certainty whether she told me so, said she was about nineteen years old at the time or was concerning the stick with which she struck was about as long as the top part of the back of a Windsor chair, but not so long, she turned round in her chair to show me the size of the stick, not so long as the part above the seat of the chair she said struck with the right hand on the right side of his head. I asked her if she did not know that she could not have struck him as she said, and if George had not struck the old man from behind - she said he did not, that he knew nothing about it & was not there at the time. Harvey Newson being sworn, stated as follows

Newson's
Evi I am the son of Robert Newson my father was missing on the morning of Sunday the 24th of June, I heard of it and went down to his house other persons were there when I got there I examined the cabin in and about & in the yard some bones were found a short distance from the cabin a long path in some ashes the path led to the stable. No buttons were found there portions of the bones were found. The company picked bones out of the ashes - about a handful, and placed them in my hands - I carried them home I wrapped them in paper & put them into a box other bones found by Mrs. Waincott were put into the same box (box produced) this is the box

1.0 I left them with Mr. Bartley, the Circuit Court
clerk, since August the County clerk has had them
my sister put the bones she found into the same
box, here are some of the pieces I put into the box
the bones that I picked up I put into the box. I
saw no bones picked up in the cabin, saw nothing
picked up there I saw nothing picked out of the
ashes but bones the path led to the stable.

Virg. Virginia Winicott being sworn, stated as follows
Winicott I am a daughter of Robert Newson, I was living
with him at his house, I saw him the last time on the evening
of the 23rd of June, at bed time, I hunted in all
the paths & walks & every place for him next day
looked in cows & along the creek, this was on
Sunday. I found no trace of him, that evening
I learned when the bones were put I found the bones
under the hearth in the cabin, turned the large
stones over to find them. I found a gallon bucket
in the ashes - I have more bones in a box which
I have kept myself. Found the bones in the house
where Celeis lived. Found them under the hearth
and put them on a bureau until the next day
I gave them to my brother after the inquest. He
took the bones home. I picked them up from under
the hearth rock. There are ~~on~~ the bones, and there
are the buttons my sister saved on my father's
brooches a few days before his death. Found them
out near the cabin in the ashes with the bones
sister Mary saved metal buttons on his pants
George found the knife: I did not see it (record
was produced) this is the box I kept this is father's
knife, the handle is burned black, but this is
the knife, the ashes were carried up in the fire place

11 I broke the limps open, and they had a strange
smell, looked as if something had been buried
in them. I saw no flesh. Nothing like flesh.
The ashes were eaten up in the fireplace, Celie (de-
fendant) had been sick, and had not taken
out the ashes for a long time.

Cross examined by defendant. The cabin is about
60 steps from the house, I saw my father in the
evening, about twilight reaching at a window
we all went to bed leaving him in the room. He
slept in the room he was reaching in. My son slept
with the old man. My son was there in the morning.
I did not notice any thing father was meaning, did
not notice the bed, poster made the bed up. We
went to bed early. Celie had been sick, took
sick in February, had been sick ever since. Had
not been able to work since February, the Cook
leaves joining the churning house.

Coffee Witness being sworn stated as follows
Coffee I am eleven years old, was living in grand pa
Witness house when he died, I was up in the cherry tree
Eve early in the morning grand pa was missing. Ce-
lie said she would give me two dozen Walnuts
if I would carry the ashes out. I said good tick.
I put them out along side of the path. I do not
know whether there was any path then or not -
only beat down like. I did not know when
I put the ashes, I saw people picking up bones
out of the ashes I carried out. I got the ashes
out of the house she lived in.
Cross examined by defendant, I slept with
Mother. Billy slept with grand pa. did not
go to bed in the same room with grand father

12 Billy is my brother Billy is four years old
William Perrel sworn stated as follows

Perrel I was at Newson's house this day the bones were
Evi found. I found the bones not far from the cabin
I did not see any bones found any where else. The
bones were found in the ashes, I think there are
the bones found, I saw three or four persons pick
-ing up bones. I did not see any bones got from
out of the cabin, I was there on the fourth Sun-
-day in June, Celias was at this house, Robert
Newson lived in this county. I found the bones
when Celias said I would find them
Cross examined by defense. I was at Newson's
about 10 o'clock on the morning after he was
missing, there were other persons there. I did not
examine the room he slept in, don't recollect
of having noticed the bed, I had been there
sometimes, I went into the cook house, where
Celias was, I told her she knew when her mas-
-ter was - that George had said enough to
make me believe she knew when he was
she denied it, said she knew nothing about
him. I told her that it would be better for her
to tell - that her children should not be taken
away from her if she would tell, and that
I had the rope provided for her if she did not
tell. She still refused to make any confession.
At last she said he came to the back window
of her house, and that she struck him, and
he fell back on the outside, and that she
saw nothing more of him, refused for some time
to tell any thing more. But said at length
that if I would send the two men out of the

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room, she went to tell me. They went out she said he came into her house. I think she said he came in at the door & was talking to her when she said she struck him twice, she became alarmed - said she became afraid she would be hung for it, and thought she would try ~~and~~ to beat him. She got a stick of wood and laid it on the fire, and got some staves for hogheads near the cabin, she said it was his or about 10 blocks when she came down to her house, she said she had made threats - said she threatened him that she would hurt him, on condition that he would not let her alone, she threatened to hurt him, not to strike him; she said she intended to hurt him, not to strike him. I asked her if she had told any one she would hurt him said she had told the White family - she said she threatened that she would hurt him, if he did not quit forcing her while she was sick. I do not know what her condition was as to health, had heard she was sick do not know that she was pregnant. Judge from her appearance that she was, she said she did not intend to strike him, struck twice but did not intend to strike.

Smith Doctor Smith being sworn, stated as follows -

Evi These bones are the bones of an actual human They are bones of an actual beyond a doubt

Young Doctor Young being sworn stated as follows - I can speak with certainty, & say these are human bones. (When the case was closed on the part of the State) The following witnesses were introduced on the part of the defense. Doctor J. W. Martin

14 Mr D. was sworn

Thomas Shootman being sworn stated as follows
Shootman I was present with Mrs Jones at the Jail. Cecilia
Evi said she struck Newson two blows with a stick
after she struck the first time he fell & he groaned
& threw his hands up. The reason she gave for
striking him the second blow was that he threw
his hands up that she was afraid he would catch
her. she said she did not intend to strike him
when she struck him, but only to hurt him
she was rather at or towards his back, not im-
mediately before him. He sunk down on or to-
wards a stool, after she struck the second blow
she examined to see whether he was dead. He
was dead. waited a long time, did not know
what to do. she thought she would try to burn
him, and put him in the fire place & burned
him. The stick with which she struck was as
large as the top part of the chair post of a Windsor
chair above the seat, but was not so long
When the case was closed on the part of the defence
Whereupon the State moved the Court to instruct
the Jury as follows, to wit, 1. If the Jury find from
the evidence that the defendant maliciously
P.L. Instruction, 2. The deliberation, and premeditation
necessary to constitute murder in the first
degree, need be but for a moment before the
killing, and may be inferred from the cir-
cumstances attending the killing

2. The deliberation, and premeditation
necessary to constitute murder in the first
degree, need be but for a moment before the
killing, and may be inferred from the cir-
cumstances attending the killing

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3. If the Jury are satisfied defendant killed him, it devolves upon her to show in her defence from the evidence in the cause, to the reasonable satisfaction of the Jury, that she was guilty of a less crime than Murder or acted in self defence.

4. If the Jury believe from the evidence that it was not the intention of defendant to kill Newson, but that she did intend to do him some great bodily harm, and that in so doing death ensued it is Murder in the first degree by the Statute of this State.

5. If Newson was in the habit of having intercourse with the defendant who was his slave and went to her cabin on the night he was killed to have intercourse with her, or for any other purpose, and while he was standing in the floor talking to her, she struck him with a stick which was a dangerous weapon and struck him down, and struck him again after he fell and killed him by either blow, it is Murder in the first degree.

6. Defendant had no right to kill him because he came to her cabin, and was talking to her about having intercourse with her or any thing else.

7. There is no evidence before the Jury that she was acting in self defence.

8. It devolves on the defendant to show from the evidence in the cause to the reasonable satisfaction of the Jury that she acted

16 in self defence

9. The Jury may receive what defendant said against herself and reject what she said in her own favour, and they are not bound to take it as true because she said it.

Expon

To the giving of each & every of the above instructions to the Jury, the defendant objected & the Court overruled the objection & allowed said instructions to be given to the Jury. To which opinion of the Court overruling said objection and allowing said instructions to be given to the Jury defendant objected & excepted.

The defendant then moved & prayed the Court to instruct the Jury as follows, To-wit:

diff
within
not

1. The law presumes the defendant innocent and the Jury are to place themselves upon this presumption and only recede from it when driven from it by the testimony.

"

2nd Unless the Jury believe from the evidence beyond a reasonable doubt, that defendant did kill Newton feloniously, wilfully, deliberately, premeditatedly and of Malice aforethought, they will find her not guilty of Murder in the 1st degree.

given

3. Unless the Jury believe from the evidence beyond a reasonable doubt, that defendant is guilty as charged in the indictment, they will find her not guilty.

given

"

not

4th If the Jury believe from the evidence that she did kill Robert Newton, but that the killing was done without deliberation & premeditation and in heat of passion, they will find her not guilty of Murder in the 2nd degree.

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5th If the Jury believe that Celias did Kill Newson, but that this act was done without deliberation & premeditation & to prevent him from forcing her to sexual intercourse with him Newson, they will find her not guilty of Murder in the first degree.

not

6th If the Jury believe from the evidence that Celias killed Newson, yet if they find further from the evidence that she did not intend to Kill him at the time it was done they will find her not guilty of Murder in the first degree.

not

7. The confessions of the prisoner must be taken altogether, the Jury giving such weight to each part as they may deem it entitled to.

given

8. If the Jury believe from the evidence that Celias did Kill Newson, but that the Killing was necessary to protect herself against a forced sexual intercourse with her on the part of said Newson, and then way imminent danger of such forced sexual connection being accomplished by Newson, they will not find her guilty of Murder in the first degree.

not

9. Although the Jury may believe from the evidence, that Newson & another had had sexual intercourse with Celias prior to the time of the said alleged Killing. Yet if they further believe from the testimony, that said Newson at the time of said Killing, attempted to compel her against her will to have sexual intercourse with him, they will not find her guilty of Murder in the first degree, unless they further find that Celias killed Newson &c. consciously, & willfully.

not

18 deliberately, premeditatedly & of her Malice
aforethought.

not 10. An attempt to compel a woman to be de-
filed by using force, Menaces, or duress is a
felony within the meaning of the fourth section
of the second Act concerning Crimes & punish-
ments in Missouri Statute for 1845.

not 11. The using of a master authority to compel a
slave to be by him defiled, is using force -
menaces and duress, within the meaning of
the 29 section of the 2nd article of Missouri
Statute for 1845. concerning crimes and punish-
ments.

not 12th The words any woman in the first
clause of the 29th section, of second article
of laws of Missouri for 1845. concerning crimes
& punishments embraces slaves & women as
well as free white women.

13 If from all of the evidence the Jury
have a reasonable doubt of the guilt of
Celina, they will find her not guilty.

Bice
Expans To the giving of the first, fourth, fifth, sixth,
eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh & twelfth of said
instructions the state objected, and the Court
sustained the objection, but gave to the Jury
the second, third, seventh & thirteenth of said
instructions prayed for by defendant, and
refused to give to the Jury the first, fourth, fifth,
sixth, eighth, ninth, tenth, eleventh and twelfth
of said instructions. To which opinion of the
Court sustaining the objection of the state
to said ^{refused} instructions defendant objected &
excepted. The cause having then being argued

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by counsel for State & defendant the Jury retired to consider of their Verdict, after which they returned with the following Verdict (see it on page 5) Defendant then moved the Court to set aside said Verdict & grant a new trial, herewith motion for new trial for State vs. Collier a slave. In the Gallaway Circuit Court

Mo
Mar
trial

October Term 1855. The defendant moves the Court to set aside the Verdict of the Jury in the above entitled case and grant a new trial for the following reasons
1. Because the Court allowed in law illegal and incompetent testimony to go to the Jury in behalf of the State -

2. Because the Court excluded from the consideration of the Jury, legal competent and relevant testimony offered by defendant.

3. Because the Court refused to allow each and every of the instructions as prayed for by the defendant -

4. Because the Court granted and allowed illegal instructions as to the law of the case at the instance of the State -

5. Because the Court refused to give to the Jury legal instructions as to the law of the case prayed for by defendant -

6. Because the Verdict of the Jury is against the weight of the evidence, and contrary to the law and evidence -

7. Because the Verdict is defective, irregular, & informal.

Jameson Henry Bonhivers
atys for defendant

20 which motion was overruled by the Court to
Bill which opinion of the Court in overruling said
Ex parte Motion defendant objected & excepted
Mrs A. Hall

afterwards on the 13th day of October 1835
app? The defendant by J. W. Boulward her
granted attorney, asked for an appeal to the Supreme
Court, which was granted

State of Missouri Callaway County Let
I Geo. Bartley Clerk of the Court to wit
within and for the County of Callaway afore-
said do hereby certify that the foregoing
written pages contain a full true and
complete transcript of the record and
papers in the case therein stated of the
State of Missouri against Heelin (a slave)

as fully as the same appears in my office
Given under my hand and
seal of office this 6th day
of December 1835.

Geo. Bartley Clerk

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State 160
Oct. 7 1855

Records

Keeler & Co
Examined
Sept 16 1855
Geo. Bentley etc

Filed 10th Dec 1855
W. J. Glavin etc

State of Missouri

v1

Cely, otherwise Celia, otherwise Celia Dawson
a slave - In the Callaway Circuit Court.

The prisoner having been found guilty of murder in the first degree and sentenced to be hung - Having also prayed for an appeal to the Supreme Court, which was granted, but which was without any order of the Circuit Court for a stay of execution - And having by her counsel presented to the Supreme Court, now in Session in St Louis a copy of said record, praying that an order might be made staying the execution of the sentence of the Court until the appeal might be heard in the Supreme Court at the next term thereof in January next at Jefferson City - Upon examination of the record and proceedings of the Circuit Court of Callaway County in the above case - It is thought proper to refuse the prayer of the petitioner; - there being seen upon inspection of the record aforesaid no probable cause for such appeal; nor so much doubt as to render it expedient to take the judgment of the Supreme Court thereon - It is therefore ordered by the Court, that an order for the stay of the execution in this case be refused -

State
D.
Celia, a Slave

Tried 14th December 1855.
W. F. Glanville
Ck.

St Louis Mo, Dec 6th 1835

Hon^{ble} J. Leonard

St Louis Mo,

Dear Sir, Enclosed we
send you a copy of the Record in the
Case of State vs Celia a Slave which
we wish you to examine and if you
think it proper order a Stay of Execution
until the case can be tried in the Supreme
Court, in January next, you will see
by the Record that she (Celia) was sentenced
to be hung on the 16th of last month (November)
But in consequence of her escape from
prison, or in other words, taken out by
some one - a few days before the time
set for her execution, and her not being
taken until after the 16th Nov^r ~~the 16th Nov^r~~
~~has set the 21st of this month~~ another day
the 21st of this month has been set
for her execution, We feel more than
ordinary interest in behalf of the girl
Celia, believing that she did the act
to prevent a forced sexual intercourse
on the part of Munsome, Indeed the
greater portion of the community here
are much interested in her behalf, and
we feel satisfied that you will upon
examination of the Record find that the
Court gave illegal instructions as well
as refused such as were plainly the
law, indeed cut out all means of
defense - you will please give the
matter your earliest attention and
much oblige yours &c Jameson, Kemms & Bonney
attys for Defendant

Hon^r Leonard
Harris
Mo