Certify (Mo)
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John Gilfillan
Clerk
Minn.

Minn.

Free
Gov. Ramsey
Feb 9 1850

G. Feb. 1850

I hope I have not my errand too long delayed addressing you on the subject of this communication – Having the interests and rights of those among us holding servants and slaves, need further protection, than, so far as I am informed, is afforded by our laws now in existence respecting them – there are a number of valuable servants for terms of years held by our citizens – when any of these now abscond they are scarcely worth pursuing after – the expence of apprehending and getting them home is not worth incurring unless they would be sold away as slaves for life – I would therefore suggest the propriety of having a law passed ~~authorizing the owners of~~ authorizing the owners of such servants held for terms of years within this State upon their having absconded from the service of their owners or employers and being brought back and identified before any two magistrates a judge of our County or Orphans Court to be adjudged ~~[illegible]~~ to be thereafter held and respected by the owners as ~~other~~ slaves for life, as all other slaves for life are within the State, and subject to be sold therewith as slaves for life now are – and further that hereafter no person holding