Frederick October 2d 1818

Sir. Mr Robert Lyles of Montgomery County informs us that he is on his way to your house to purchase a family of negroes.

We have known Mr Lyles many years and have never heard of his Trafficking in Slaves, nor do we believe that in this instance he has any other View, but to purchase them for his own use.

Geo Baer
[illegible]
Wm Blue
[illegible]

Mr C. Burney.

Frederick 5 Oct 1818

Dear Sir

I rec'd your esteemed favor some Time ago & intended answering it by John, but he went a day sooner than I intended which prevented me — I have made a good deal of enquiry respecting Mr Lyles, from several people who know him the general opinion is that he wanted them for a Mr Spriggs a Relation who is disposing of his Farm & intends moving to Louisiana the other person is merely manager of a Carding Machine & has no Land — There is a Mr Fleming a very respectable Man within 2 or 3 Miles of this Town who will buy them provided the price is not more than he thinks them worth — you will therefore please write a Letter stating what is the lowest price you will take for them

C. Birnie Esqr
Taney Town

Frederick Oct 5 1818
Rec'd the Answer