

INDENTURE, 1855

TEXT

This Indenture made and entered into this sixth day of March A. D. 1855 between the County Court of Fayette County State of Illinois of the one part and Nathaniel M McCurdy of the same County and state of the other part; Witnesseth; that the said County Court by virtue of the laws of Illinois in such cases made and provided, have placed and by these presents do place and bind out as an apprentice a poor girl of Color named Margaret who is now of the age of fourteen or thereabouts, Say fourteen years and eleven months, to the said Nathaniel M. McCurdy to learn the business of house keeping after the manner of an apprentice, the said girl having become chargeable to the said County; to dwell with and serve the said McCurdy from the day of the date hereof until she arrives at the age of eighteen years, during all which time or term of the said apprentice her said Master well and faithfully shall serve, his secrets keep and his lawful commands, everywhere and at all time readily obey; She shall do no damage to her said Master, nor knowingly suffer any to be done by others; She shall not waste the goods of her said Master nor lend them unlawfully to any person or persons; At cards, Dice or at any other unlawful games she shall not play, Matrimony she shall not contract during the said term. Taverns, Groceries, Ale houses or places of gaming she shall not frequent or resort. From the services of her said Master she shall not absent herself, but in all things and at all times she shall demean herself as a good and faithful apprentice during the time aforesaid.

And the Said McCurdy binds himself to cause said apprentice to be taught to read, and shall give unto his said apprentice a Bible and two new suits of clothes suitable to her condition at the expiration of the said term of service. In testimony whereof we have hereunto subscribed our names and affixed our seals this 6th day of March A. D. 1855.

H. P. H. Brownwell County Judge
Robert M. Connelly ss
Willis Wilborn ss

N. M. McCurdy