

Georgetown D.C. July 19 1857

My dear Madam

We are willing to give you credit, as requested, on our books for the balance due to you from Warner, on account of the purchase of Eliza, and thus close this troublesome affair. But instead of executing a deed of manumission, we prefer and Warner desires you would execute the enclosed bill of sale. We will then take from him a mortgage or deed of trust on Eliza in order to secure us the repayment of the \$144 advanced by us ^{to him} in crediting you on our books. As soon as we are fully paid, the mortgage will be satisfied and Warner can then liberate Eliza himself, or it can be provided in the mortgage deed that as soon as the \$144 are repaid us, Eliza shall be free. Our Lawyer tells us this is the proper course for us & for Eliza, because he entertains some doubt as to your power to manumit, since by the contract of sale & part-payment of the purchase money the property in Eliza has become vested in Warner, and consequently you could exercise no control as to her freedom in derogation of his vested rights. For if Eliza were to die now, the loss would fall on Warner - he would be liable to you for the balance of the \$325 and interest, which proves, that she is his property, now, & your incapacity in consequence to liberate. As soon as we receive the bill of sale herewith sent, executed we will give

You enc'd for \$144,

Respectfully
Yr obedt servt