

Transcription

"They expected to be free"

The negroes who were before Justice Hancock, of Chesterfield, on Wednesday were, after a thorough investigation, discharged. It appears that the whole affair amounted to this:— That they had said amongst themselves, that they expected to be free about the 4th of March, in consequence of Lincoln's election, (that at least was the substance of it.) They had not, however, concocted any plot, or decided upon any action, or named any time for doing anything.— They had, however, used some very violent language about white people. Ten negroes were punished and five were discharged.

Citation: *Alexandria Gazette*, January 7, 1861