

The Contrabands from Cairo.

We have received a communication signed by Lewis Isbell, Joseph Stanley, Henry Bradford, and G. W. Brodie, the committee appointed at a mass meeting of colored citizens to take charge of the contrabands arriving from Cairo. The communication is in answer to an article which appeared in the *Journal*, grossly maligning them, and states the fact substantially as follows :

The *Journal* tells its readers of one Saulsbury who brought up one hundred contrabands from Cairo, but neglects to tell them that he peddled them out at three dollars per head. He becoming alarmed, from the fact that the people were enraged at the idea of these contrabands being disposed of at three dollars per head, he proposed to the colored committee to take charge of the remaining few as above stated, and get rid of them as they saw fit, by paying him his expenses, which amount was about ninety-six dollars. The committee indignantly refused to submit to anything of the kind, but told him they would not agree to receive them on any terms of taxation except the small amount they had received of one dollar, which money was to be applied to defraying the expenses of keeping and attending to those that might be sick or remain on their hands before finding homes for them. This gentleman being foiled in his attempt to obtain a surety for that amount, sought the committee again, and said if they would they might take charge of the remaining few, and do as they thought best, and if they saw fit to give them anything, they could do so, but they would abide their decision. So they, the committee, took charge of them about three o'clock p m on Monday, the 6th inst. These are facts that can easily be proven. But we are further charged with taking from this gentleman his load of contrabands. We only regret that such was not the case.

In behalf of the Contraband Aid Committee.

LEWIS ISBELL,
JOSEPH STANLEY,
HENRY BRADFORD,
G. W. BRODIE.