

get in he would break the door open. He asked me where the lady was who kept the store and said, "if she has any friends here they had better get the keys." Mr. Grason came up and I asked him if he could not use some influence to induce them not to destroy her property, he said he would if he saw any occasion for it, afterwards he said he had not seen any occasion.

Question. Was the store broken open?

Answer. They afterwards got the key and got what they wanted.

Question. Was the store plundered or did they pay for what they got?

Answer. They paid for what they got, they bought nothing but a slouch hat.

Question. Mrs. Sheeley was conducting the business herself at that time, was she not?

Answer. Yes. She was not there herself, her son came over. I heard Mr. and Mrs. Grason talking with them in front of the store. Mrs. Grason asked one of them if he knew Randolph Ridgely, her nephew. I think he said he did, then she asked him if he knew James Grason, he said "yes, he belongs to the Chesapeake Artillery." Mr. Grason then came up and asked something about him, after that Mr. Grason went away.

*By the Committee.*

*Question by the Committee.* Did not you hear what that conversation was?

Answer. Yes, it was about his brother who is in the Southern army, he asked in relation to his health, where he was at that time and how he was getting along. Then Mr. Grason walked away, it was while the scout was arguing about getting into the store that Mr. Grason came up.

*Question by the Committee.* Why did you think that Mr. Grason would have greater influence than yourself?

Answer. I had an idea that he would be more likely to have being that he had a brother in the service, and considered him more in sympathy with the rebels, than us Union men, who held aloof from them.

*Question by the Committee.* Then it was supposed that Mr. Grason was in sympathy with the rebels at that time?

Answer. I don't know whether that would be the conclusion, my impression was that he would have more influence than myself.

*Direct examination resumed.*

Question. Did you ever hear him express any sympathy with the rebellion?

Answer. I don't think I ever did, I never had any conversation with him on the subject.

*The examination in chief of this witness was here concluded.*