

WILLIAM A. VAN NOSTRAND, called as a witness for the Respondent, being duly sworn, testified as follows:

Question. State your name, age, residence and business?

Answer. My name is William A. Van Nostrand, I am 46 years old; I reside at 107 south Eden Street, Baltimore, and I am a shipsmith.

Question. Have you been Marshal of the city of Baltimore?

Answer. Yes; from the 10th of March 1862, to the last of March 1864—about two (2) years.

Question. Were you acting under the military authorities in Baltimore?

Answer. Yes; I was Provost Marshal of the Middle Department for fifteen (15) or eighteen (18) months.

Question. You were acting in that capacity when General Dix was there, were you not?

Answer. Yes; I first acted under General Wool then under General Schenck.

Question. You acted as Provost Marshal both under General Wool and General Schenck, did you?

Answer. Yes.

Question. Do you recollect, at any time, going into Baltimore county to the house of Mr. John White, if so, state all the circumstances connected with it?

Answer. I think it was in the Fall of 1862, I received instructions from General Wool; I proceeded to the house of Mr. White, a short distance beyond Cockeysville. My instructions were to arrest a party that was arming and drilling for some disloyal purpose—to arrest them and bring them to Baltimore, and I did so; I carried out the order.

Question. Who did you take with you?

Answer. Some twenty (20) or twenty-five (25) men.

Question. Will you state what you found;

Answer. I found a large gathering there of ladies, gentlemen, children and babies; I arrested all the males and brought them to the city.

Question. Was it a war-like gathering?

Answer. It was nothing more than a social gathering—a party or something of the kind, nothing that looked to me like a war gathering, demonstration or drill; the neighbors for several miles around with their wives and children were there.

Question. Before you reached the house, did you see the house lighted up?

Answer. Yes; the house stood on a hill, and it was lighted up.

Question. Was the house generally illuminated?

Answer. Yes; throughout.

Question. Was it a dancing party?

Answer. Yes; they were dancing at the time I entered.

Question. Did you find Mr. Grason there?