

combination, the character of the persons implicated and their general conduct on the occasion and the total unfitness of the Jail of Anne Arundel County, to receive so many persons they turned them to the goal of Baltimore for examination, that the number of persons committed were about 400; that upon their arrival in Baltimore, the Honorable Judge Brice, chief Judge of the City Court, assisted by Thomas Snowden a magistrate of Prince Georges, by Mr. Alexander Shero, a Counselor at Law on behalf of the State and his request, and the request of the friends of the murdered parties, and by himself, commenced an examination for 10 or 12 days and resulted in the full commitment of two persons, James Coyle and Owen Murphy for the murder of John Watson and William Moyer, and in the commitment of Thomas Coyle and Brian Riley for an assault with intent to ~~kill~~ ^{kill} Margaret Timmons, by putting her on a large fire, burning her legs in a most shocking and brutal manner, to make her confess her participation in the crime of robbing a certain John Gorman; that Brian Riley, Tom Coyle and Patrick Kearney are also supposed to be concerned in an assault with intent to kill John Watson and John Gorman the day before Watson was murdered; that several persons are still detained in Jail for further examination, and several witnesses, that it is believed that the State has now ~~received~~ her control the proper and competent evidence to furnish in part, tho in a small part, the murders of Watson and Moyer. That the homicides aforesaid occurred on the morning of the 20th of November 1832, about 7 o'clock, while Watson and Moyer were asleep in the stowage on the Rail Road now constructing to Washington a party of armed men from 15 to 20 spoiled their souls, broke in the doors and windows, and deliberately selecting Watson and Moyer as their victims carried them out of the stowage and most inhumanly murdered them both - fracturing the skulls and beating and stabbing both of them in many places, that after this altho the noise of musquetry the sad wailing of the murdered and the screams of the deceased had attracted the attention of 150 Irish labourers, sleeping in and about the scene of the murder, yet these spectators were permitted to depart without any effort to ascertain who the murderers were, or to pursue or detect them, and this conduct with the examination of many witnesses had left the impression that a systematic combination existed among the workmen on the Rail Road to keep the crimes of their associates secret; that having examined the whole subject - the causes and atrocious character of the murder - the temper and description of the labourers among whom it was committed - the studied anxiety to conceal it having been offered upon the peaceable inhabitants of Prince Georges County - its effect upon the works of internal improvement carried on, he considered it his duty to submit to the Governor the propriety of calling a special Court in Anne Arundel County