

Wm. L. Garrison
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 Murder at
 Lancaster
 City, State
 of Penn.

Baltimore Thursday night
 Sept. 25th 1857

Dear Sir

In obedience to your instructions I hasten to report the result of the preliminary examination at Lancaster in Pennsylvania, in the matter of the murder of Edward Gorsuch.

A large number of prisoners were this morning, by the order of Alderman Beigart of Lancaster committed to the custody of the United States Marshall to answer the charge of high treason against the United States - Among the prisoners thus committed are two white men Casner Stannaway & Elijah Lewis.

In announcing this result I feel warranted under your instructions in communicating a condensed sketch of the facts connected with this mournful & momentous tragedy.

Immediately on my arrival in Lancaster, I was waited on by John L. Thompson the attorney for the State in Lancaster County & shortly afterwards by the Hon. Thomas E. Franklin, the attorney General of Pennsylvania, to both of whom as well as to Col. W. B. Fordney, I feel under the deepest obligations for their hearty co-operation in conducting the prosecution against the arrested parties, as well as for their kind and courteous deportment towards myself personally. Indeed, I gratefully testify to the general good feeling with which I was received on my unpleasant mission to Lancaster.

From what I saw I have no doubt of the loyalty of a large majority of the people, of that large & wealthy city, to the sacred bond of the Union, or of their indignation that the soil of their County should have been stained by the dark & bloody treason, which has deprived Maryland of the life of a most valuable citizen - I went there expecting to meet with a morbid & prejudiced public sentiment, but was agreeably disappointed. Not so however with the township of Cadsbury, where this sad catastrophe occurred, there as it appeared in evidence are congregated hordes of coloured persons, most of them runaway slaves, colonised as it were, under the protection of white men, who under the base & fraudulent pretence of feeding, clothing, & harbouring them, as objects of charity & Christian kindness are unflinchingly engaged in reaping a rich harvest from the labour & services of these fugitive slaves, whom they employ