

then show the nature of the obstructions, & the daring sympathies interposed against the course of public justice, by the machinations of a crew of miserable parasites countenanced & assisted by public officers, who seem to have had no decent respect for themselves or for a Court of justice.

In spite of all these things & many others that I could enumerate, I believe that we succeeded in getting a Jury empanelled, a majority of whom were unexceptionable & unbiassed, but that was the result of great tact & management on the part of those counsel for the United States, who, by arrangement, took charge of that portion of the proceedings, & I feel bound to acknowledge in this particular, the services of Mr Ludlow, Mr George Ashmead & Col Rob^t M. Lee of Philadelphia, who took every possible precaution to obtain a good & impartial Jury.

Before proceeding to announce to your Excellency the result of these prosecutions & the grounds on which they were dismissed, I must here take occasion to say, that as far as my observation went, a large majority of the citizens of Philadelphia desired to see the laws faithfully & fairly executed; & that the parties, if guilty, should suffer the highest penalty of the laws; but, unfortunately the faction, before alluded to, is so active, so artful, & so unscrupulous & possessing withal, as I am informed, such large means - so fatally bent on rescuing every one of the accused parties from the grasp of the law, that I had but little hope from the beginning, of a favourable result, if it was in their power, by any means to turn aside the sword of Justice. Still my colleague & myself determined at all events to do our duty, & believing the party on trial to be guilty of treason we relaxed no fair or honorable effort to convict him, until the end was reached by the ruling of the Court, unexpected as it was to us, and, I believe, majority of the citizens of Philadelphia.

I have sent your Excellency full & authentic printed copies of the evidence, which will save me the trouble of a more detailed report. I do not deem it at all necessary to view this evidence, but will content myself with drawing your attention to the principal rulings of the Court, which cut up this prosecution by the roots. In the first place, the defence, in order to get rid of ^{the} prima facie case made out by the United States, offered evidence to show, that as far back as January 1857, a negro man, said to have come from Maryland, had been seized at the house of one Chamberlyn, his employer, by