

Balt. Nov. 23^d 1852

My dear Sir - I have just received a letter from Lancaster which informs me that the Court has adjourned and that no presentment has been made in the case of Ridgely. Thus ended at least, the matter.

With great regards

Your friend

James M. Buchanan

His Excellency E. Louis Howe

Report of Wm Scott and James M. Buchanan Commissioners in the Ridgely Case.

Baltimore
Dec. 2^d 1852

To His Excellency
E. Louis Howe

Sir

Immediately after our appointment, as Commissioners, to collect the facts and circumstances connected with the killing of the fugitive slave in Lancaster County Pennsylvania, by Archibald G. Ridgely and to confer with the Governor of Pennsylvania relative to the same we went to Harrisburg and ascertained that Governor Bigler was not at the seat of Government and learned that on proofs furnished by the officers of Lancaster County, Gov. Bigler had been requested to demand Ridgely from your Excellency to answer a charge of murder and that the demand would forthwith be made.

We then addressed a letter to the Governor of Pennsylvania informing him of the objects of our visit and of the authority under which we came, and requesting him to delay any further action till we could collect all the circumstances relative to the transaction and until we could have an opportunity of conferring with him. This was readily conceded.

We then proceeded to Lancaster, had an interview with John S. Thompson Esquire the Prosecuting Attorney for Lancaster County; stated to him the purpose of our visit and requested him to be present at our examination of witnesses; believing, it would be most satisfactory to the authorities of Pennsylvania if the evidence was taken under the supervision of the State Attorney.