

at this time. It practically strikes dead the Fugitive Slave Act, whenever armed bands of negroes, encouraged by white men, may choose to resist the officer of the United States, and he may be unprovided with an army superior to their forces. It encourages and incites these "black regiments with white allies," in their work of murdering Southern masters, who dare to pursue their slaves, by proclaiming that the United States Courts will not convict them, especially if it cannot be proved that they have read the act of Congress. It leaves no other possible redress by law, for such outrages as that by which Mr. Gorsuch perished, than local prosecutions in the county courts, where the insurgents and their white allies reside. I cannot conceive of a greater farce than such a prosecution would be before a county jury, a portion of whom would be linked in sympathies with the insurgents and their white counsellors and abettors, if indeed, they had not themselves been privy to the whole scheme of resistance to the law, and the murder of its agents.

We have already had a practical illustration of the integrity of local juries, drawn from the vicinage, in the infamous Coroner's inquest held over the body of Edward Gorsuch, where, as proved on this trial, twelve Jurors of Sadsbury township, upon their solemn oaths did find, "that on the morning of the 11th instant, the neighborhood was thrown into an excitement by the above deceased and some five or six persons in company with him, making an attack upon a family of colored persons living in said Township, near the Brick Mill, about four o'clock in the morning, for the purpose of arresting some fugitive slaves as they alleged. Many of the colored people of the neighborhood collected, and there was considerable firing of guns and other fire-arms, by both parties. Upon the arrival of some of the neighbors at the place, after the riot had subsided, they found the above deceased, lying upon his back or right side, dead. Upon a post mortem examination upon the body of the said deceased—by Drs. Patterson and Martin, in our presence—we believe he came to his death by gun shot wounds that he received in the above mentioned riot, caused by some person or persons unknown to us."

And this monstrous verdict, full of lies and calumny towards the dead, was rendered, as proved on this trial, by one of the Jurors and other witnesses, without any evidence before them, except that of the doctors who examined the dead body, although Kline, the United States officer, was an eye-witness to the whole affair, and offered himself as a witness to this unscrupulous and wicked Jury—a Jury who, in the language of one of their number placed on the witness stand, "did not wish to hear him (Kline) as he had been telling such various tales, they would not believe him on oath." Will it be believed that the various tales told by Kline, were simply that Elijah Lewis and Castner Hanway, two