

mented upon by Attorney General Brent, in his report of the trial of Hanway.

What owner of a "fugitive from service or labor," after the awful tragedy at Christiana, and the mockery of justice that marked the trial of its authors, would be willing to risk the chances of his re-capture during the hours of day? His very appearance would be the signal for the secretion of the slave, so as effectually to secure him against re-capture, or if it better comported with the feelings of the fugitive and his harborers, they could at once "by the blowing of horns," or other pre-concerted signals, summon their trained bands of desperados, and make the hapless owner pay with his life the forfeit of his temerity. In either case no redress could be hoped for under the provisions of the "Fugitive Slave Law." Yet such has been the ruling of a United States Court, as delivered through its learned and grave presiding Judge!!!

With regard to the remaining propositions deduced from the charge of his Honor Judge Grier, the Committee deem it unnecessary to enter into any analysis of them. That task has been performed with such signal ability in the report made to his Excellency, the Governor, by the late Attorney General of the State, Hon. Robert J. Brent, (who, in connection with the Hon. James Cooper, of Pennsylvania, ably represented Maryland in the trial of Hanway,) that its repetition here appears to be uncalled for; more particularly as the report of the distinguished Attorney General has been printed and extensively circulated throughout the State. It will only be necessary to remark, *en passant*, that *that* Report completely annihilates the positions assumed by the learned Judge, and demonstrates their utter incompatibility with the universally recognized principles of constitutional law, as expounded by the ablest jurists of the nation. We will only add one word in reference to the suggestion made by Judge Grier to the local tribunals, where the outrage may have been committed, as the proper source for obtaining redress. It is not assuming too much to say that, after the examples set by the Coroner's Inquest at Christiana and the Grand Jury of Lancaster county, no slave owner of sane mind could be found willing to submit his rights to the adjudication of any such tribunals. The entire disregard of even the decencies of civilized life, and the utter mockery of all the forms of law and justice, that marked the proceedings of those bodies, render it clear to every mind, not diseased by the fell spirit of fanaticism, that to seek redress from such a source, would only be to subject the credulous applicant to "insult added to injury."

The Committee have thus, as briefly as the importance of the subject would permit, endeavored to lay before the House the leading facts connected with the history of the slave question, together with the condition in which that question has been left