

of the boat. Lieut. Harrigan ordered me, after the shooting of Capt. Speer, to disarm the sentinel Barry, and put him under arrest; he is now under arrest.

(Signed,)

VICTOR JONES.

JOSEPH LA BARGE, being first duly sworn, deposes and says: I am fifty-one years of age; I am captain of the steamer Octavia. I was in my stateroom in Texas on the night of the 7th of June, A.D. 1867. Between twelve and one o'clock of said night I was called up by my son, Joseph C. La Barge; I got up immediately and went to the aft of Texas, where I found Captain Speer lying dead. I examined the wound; it was such a one that he must have died instantly; from the appearance of the wound deceased must have been stooping at the time he was shot. Standing by the corpse were my first engineer, Chas. Newell, and assistant engineer Graham, Dr. Fowler, one of the stokers, and my son, Jos. C. La Barge; the sentinel also. I understood from the sergeant of the guard that the sentinels were not allowed to permit any one to move about on the roof. When the Lieutenant came up I requested him to remove the sentinel, as I wanted no more shooting there. He (the Lieut.) immediately sent the guard below. It was not through my request that a guard was placed on the hurricane roof. Lieut. Harrigan after leaving Fort Rice said to me if I had no objection he would place a guard on the hurricane roof if he (Capt. La Barge) would permit. I agreed to it on the condition that the guard was not to interfere with the passengers and that they were not to walk on the roof disturbing the passengers. One of the guard was to be placed aft of the wheels and the other in front of the chimneys. Col. Powell said to me at Fort Rice that the troops were not to interfere with the passengers aboard of the boat. I saw the sentinel William Barry on the morning of the 8th of June, who shot Capt. Speer. I asked the sentinel if he was in his right mind at the time he shot Capt. Speer. He replied that he was and that he had done his duty and obeyed orders; his reply was in a most insolent tone. Capt. Speer I met first at Omaha, Nebraska; he telegraphed me from Quebec that he would meet me at Omaha; his name is *W. D. Speer, Captain of the 79th of the Royal Rifles of London; this information I received through a dispatch from him from Quebec. The sentinel was not on the evening of the 7th at the place agreed upon by Lieut. Harrigan and myself. I do not consider the troops essential to the safety of the boat or its passengers. I took the troops up the river under a contract from the government as deck passengers.

(Signed,)

JOSEPH LA BARGE.

WILLIAM W. SOUTHARD, being sworn, deposes and says: I am twenty-seven years of age. Am second engineer on the steamer Octavia. I was in my room in Texas when the shot was fired. I heard some one remark: "You have killed a friend," and one other remark that "It was the Englishman." I went out after hearing these remarks to the after end of Texas, where I saw Capt. Speer weltering in his blood; he died soon after I reached him.

(Signed,)

WM. W. SOUTHARD.

CHARLES C. NEWELL, being sworn, deposes and says: I am thirty-eight years of age, and first engineer of the steamer Octavia. I went to my

* This mistake must have occurred in consequence of Captain Speer giving his address to my care.