

them, that I had killed a Yankee. To make sure that the Jury should believe him, he named the officers that were present when I was telling the story, namely, Capt. Wm. Stennet, Capt. Wm. Cockell, Capt. Lackey and Lieut. Caldwell. These respectable gentlemen are still alive, and in the Province. I have never spoken to them on the subject of this man's evidence, but I know that all of them will deny having ever heard me assert that I had killed a Yankee. I am certainly well known in this part of the Province, and can say, without fear of contradiction, that no man ever heard me say I had any hand in the destruction of the Caroline, or saw me exhibiting a bloody sword and pistols.

Parke also swore that the reformers of Wainfleet had pressed him to attend my trial at Utica, as a witness against me. I believe this part of his testimony to be as false as the rest of it. I may here remark that among the vast crowd of witnesses that appeared against me at the trial at Utica, thirteen of them were from Canada; one of them has subsequently informed me that they were promised good pay and all expenses, and a handsome reward if I was convicted, but as I was acquitted they were cheated out of their pay, and some of them had to beg on their way back to Canada.

I shall close this "boasting" part of the case by inserting the certificates of Messrs. Bradner and Bell, two respectable magistrates, before whom I was first taken when arrested on the 24th Sept. and the 12th Nov., 1840; and I should not have written so much respecting it had it not been so currently reported and commonly believed, and disseminated far and wide, with a view to injure me by many, and by others from a belief in its truth.

#### **Mr. Bradner's Certificate.**

I hereby certify that Alexander McLeod was arrested at Manchester, Niagara County, State of New York, on the 24th day of September, 1840, on a charge of Murder and Arson, committed at the destruction of the steamboat Caroline. The examination took place before me the same day, when the accused denied the accusation. There was no allegation made before me that he had at any time or place boasted that he was one of the party that destroyed the Caroline and killed Durfee.

*Given under my hand and seal, at Manchester,*

*Niagara County, this 19th day of August, 1842.*

WILLIAM BRADNER, J. P.

#### **Mr. Bell's Certificate.**

I certify that Alexander McLeod was arrested and brought before me, a Justice of the Peace of the County of Niagara, State of New York, for examination, on the 12th day of November, 1840, accused of aiding and abetting in murder &c., as being one of the party who destroyed the steamboat Caroline on the 29th December, 1837. It was not alleged at the time the warrant was required against Mr. McLeod, that he had boasted of having been one of the beforementioned party: nor was it sworn to before me, on the examination, that he had made such boast, in a tavern or elsewhere, in the United States; and I have never heard that he has made such boast in the United States at any time. I attended the trial of Mr. McLeod at Utica, and am under the impression that no proof was introduced, at that trial, which would, in the slightest degree, authorize the report above referred to.

*Given under my hand and seal, at Lewiston, County of Niagara,*

*State of New York, this 24th day of September, 1842.*

JONA. BELL, J. P.