

THE CHESAPEAKE TRIAL.

be thrown in the way of bringing those charged with so grave an offence to justice.

We had believed with this late hour that a Requisition before the Executive would not have been required in the first instance.

Very truly

(Signed) J. Q. HOWARD,
U. S. Consul.

The depositions transmitted with one of these letters professed to have been sworn before "H. T. Gilbert, Police Magistrate of the City of Saint John," on the 22nd Dec., 1863, the *Jurat* does not say where. The depositions are headed, "Province of New Brunswick, City and County of St. John, to wit," and commence "Isaac Willets of the City of New York in the State of New York, United States of America, Captain of the steamer Chesapeake belonging to the United States of America, and Daniel Henderson of the City of Portland in the State of Maine, one of the United States, Second Mate of the said steamer," and then detail, so far as within their own knowledge or what they heard on board, the circumstances of the capture by certain passengers (fifteen in all) of whom the names of Braine, Collins, Robinson and Parr are given, the names of the others being unknown to them, of the steamer Chesapeake when she was about 20 miles North of Cape Cod, the shooting of the Engineer, wounding of the Mate and Second Engineer, and the forcible taking possession of the vessel, and the landing on shore in New Brunswick of the Captain and all the crew except the first and third Engineers and the Fireman, who were retained on board; and the deponents state that they are informed and fully believe that F. C. Braine, H. C. Brooks, David Collins, John Parker Locke, John Parker, Linus Seely, George Robinson, Gilbraith Cox, Robert Cox, James McKinney, Robert Clifford, and H. A. Parr, were among others the persons of the said steamer Chesapeake, a steamer of the said United States of America, on her passage from New York to Portland, and that these persons being passengers on a boat took forcible possession of the said steamer against their will and that of the other officers and crew of the said steamer. But except detailing the facts above recited it is in charge of Piracy or Murder in Maryland and no mention whatever of the case having been made.

The charges, together with the depositions were examined by Mr. Gilbert in as follows:

The examination of Isaac Willets and the

other witnesses (naming them) taken in the presence and hearing of David Collins of the City of St. John, laborer, James McKinney and Linus Seely of same place, laborers, who stand charged before me, Humphrey T. Gilbert, Esquire, Police Magistrate for the City of St. John, and one of Her Majesty's Justices of the Peace for the City and County of Saint John, acting under a Warrant under the hand and seal of His Excellency the Honorable Arthur Hamilton Gordon, C. M. G., Lieut. Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New Brunswick, bearing date the twenty-fourth day of December, A. D., 1863, and made and issued in pursuance of the Act of the Imperial Parliament, intitled "An Act for giving effect to a Treaty between Her Majesty and the United States of America for the apprehension of certain offenders," such Warrant directed to all and every the Justices of the Peace and Officers of Justice in the Province of New Brunswick, for that they, the said David Collins, James McKinney and Linus Seely, together with John C. Braine, H. C. Brooks, Robert Clifford, George Robinson, Gilbraith Cox, Robert Cox and H. A. Parr, not brought up before me for examination, did on the 7th day of December, A. D., 1863, on the high seas, about 20 miles North North East of Cape Cod, in the said United States of America and within the jurisdiction of the said United States of America and the Circuit Courts thereof, then being passengers in and on board a certain passenger and freight steamer called the Chesapeake, of United States Register, owned, belonging and appertaining to Henry B. Crowell, a subject of the said United States of America, whereof Isaac Willets, also a subject thereof, was Master, while on a voyage from New York to Portland in the said United States of America, with force and arms, turned pirates, and the said steam vessel, and the apparel and tackle thereof of the value of \$60,000 of lawful money of the said United States of America and of the Province of New Brunswick, and a cargo owned by persons unknown of the value of \$20,000 of like lawful money, there and then being in the said steam vessel, under their care and custody and in the possession of the said Isaac Willets, as Master of the said vessel, then and there, with force and arms, did unlawfully and feloniously, within the jurisdiction of the said United States of America, and against the will of the said Isaac Willets, and the crew and mariners

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