

placed my bold signature to the blank bond and blank affidavit.

(8.) That only for the emphatic pledges of Sir John Thompson hereinbefore stated that "I would be personally protected," together with kindly feeling toward Corbitt's family, I would certainly have promoted criminal proceedings against him, and am morally certain that his escape would have been impossible.

In addition to the foregoing declaration, I the said Thomas W. Chesley also declares as follows, the facts and circumstances connected with the placing of my signature to the blank forms of bond and affidavit, which happens to have resulted so disastrously to myself:—

(1.) H. H. Van Blarcom, the principal obligor in the bond in question, was on January 25th, 1881, the post-master and Savings Bank Agent at Annapolis, and had been such for several years previously.

(2.) That A. W. Corbitt was then an acting Justice of the Peace for the County of Annapolis, and succeeded to the office of post master after the absconding of Van Blarcom, shortly after I had signed the blank bond and blank affidavit.

(3.) That Van Blarcom's offices were in the same building with the hotel in which I put up when in Annapolis and almost adjoining the railway street, only one building between.

(4.) That during the evening previous to the said 25th day of January I was in Van Blarcom's office when he solicited me to be surety for him to the Government for \$500.00 and said the business had increased, and the Government required additional security. I objected. Next morning I was going home by the train, and had left the hotel, when Van Blarcom renewed his request I at length consented, and he produced a blank form of bond