

house was situated where these meetings and conversations took place]; the house was on the right side of the street; it was a workshop; it was reached through a yard; saw the Captain there; think his name was Braine; heard conversations there; the Captain was not present; his name was Parker, as I since heard; he was a middling tall man; the captain said he wanted a crew of twenty men to go to New York to capture a vessel; we were all to have a share, do not know how much each man was to receive; did not hear anything about payment for the service; we were to have our passage paid to New York; Parr was to pay the passage; the prisoners were present at one of the meetings; there were two meetings; did not hear anybody say they would go; the prisoners were present at the second meeting; there were very few of the boys present at the first meeting; the Captain appointed the second meeting; never saw Collins before to-day. Have had no conversation with McKinney about the affair; had no conversation with Seely about it; I went over to Carleton in the same boat with Seely; I was present when the American boat went off, and Seely and McKinney were there. About a week after the last meeting I heard that the *Chesapeake* was captured; it was asked at the last meeting by the captain if those present would go; I cannot say that I heard any one assent; I was not present at the first meeting; I saw the prisoners Seely and McKinney the same night that the last meeting took place, before the meeting; I do not know how many meetings were held; I had a conversation with McKinney and Seely on the road to the meeting, when the prisoners said they would go to the meeting; the two Coxes and a man named Geo. Robinson were with us; Robinson asked the boys to go; they asked where they were going to, and he stated they would find out when they got there; when I speak of "they" I mean the prisoners and the others; they asked what they were going for; Robinson said they were going to see Braine, who was holding a meeting for the Captain; couldn't say what was said on the way; Robinson called at the Lawrence Hotel and got Capt. Parker and we all went to the place of meeting; I heard some time before the meeting that this man wanted to get a crew for the purpose of taking a steamer; those who intended to go were to go the next morning; I was present when the American boat left, and saw McKinney and Seely there; Seely was brought up in Carleton; I did not intend to go; I went to the boat to see who was going; of those men who were at the meeting I only saw McKinney and Seely; they were on the upper deck of the boat; did not know where they were going; I bid the time of day to them; I was there about a quarter to 8 o'clock; I left the wharf before the boat left; I heard the steamboat bell ring before I reached the wharf; I was at the head of the wharf when the fastenings were cast off; I saw the prisoners about five minutes before this.

Cross-examined by Mr. Gray.—It was stated at the meeting by Capt. Parker that they were going on behalf of the Confederate States to take this vessel; I think that it was stated at the meeting that this prize was to be divided among the crew by the Confederate Government; Capt. Parker stated that he had a commission from the Confederate Government; the Captain produced a paper which he purported to be a commission from the Confederate Government; the paper was read over; I did not hear what the paper contained; it commenced as near as I can remember "Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States of America." [Mr. Gray here produced a document which he refused to allow Mr. Wetmore to see. It was understood, however, that it was the Order of Jefferson Davis to Capt. Parker to go privateering.] I think the intention was expressed at the meeting that the vessel was to be taken for the Confederate States, or else they would not have gone; at the time that I heard that Capt. Parker and Lieut. Braine wanted a crew, I also heard that they were officers in the Confederate service; I heard at the same time that they wanted to raise this crew for the Confederate service for the purpose of taking this vessel; it was understood that this crew when raised was to be in the Confederate service. I did not hear it said that Parr had been an officer with Gen. Morgan; I was not sufficiently close to see the paper that Capt. Parker read, so as to be able to identify it; I did not see the mark upon it; I was not sufficiently near the paper to see it so distinctly that if it was now put into my hands I could identify it; did not see Braine there the first night; he was styled Lieutenant; did not remember that Captain Parker