

it's my turn now." He was in a state of excitement.

*Ebenezer Prescott.* Am an officer of the court; Ridgly was intoxicated at the time. Saw Mr. Sumner and others talking to him a short time after, and not thinking it proper that he should be questioned in his then state, went and told Mr. Dunlap.

*Henry Homer.* Ridgly was one-half or two-thirds drunk. Saw many people round him; among others, Mr. Child, who was listening and speaking to him. Heard one of the bystand-

ers say to Mr. Child, "It won't do you any good, for he is pointing to the prisoners." Ridgly did not point to the mutineers.

*James Benjamin* (recalled). Ridgly did point, at first, to the prisoners, but afterwards at the mutineers. Some one standing by corrected him, telling him that "he was mistaken; the prisoners had gone out." Am certain prisoners had gone out at this time. Went away with the impression that Ridgly was a witness against the mutineers.

#### November 19.

*Daniel F. Hale.* Was a passenger, in the year 1831, on board the American ship *Minerva*, from New York to New Orleans. The *Minerva* ran aground on the Bahama bank, and would, in all probability, with all her crew and passengers, but for the exertions of Bernardo de Soto, the captain of a Spanish brig, which providentially hove in sight, took them on board, and carried them safely into the Havana. They were seventy-two in all. They could not possibly have been saved, had they not been assisted by de Soto, as the *Minerva* had a cargo of lime, which would have taken fire on coming in contact with

the water, and the vessel had already sprung a leak. An American ship, the *Chariot*, after having ascertained their situation, continued their voyage without attempting to succor them; on her arrival she reported a vessel on the Bahama bank. De Soto treated them very kindly while on board his brig.

*Samuel Sanford.* Have examined the invoice of the cargo with which the *Panda* sailed from Havana, and value it at \$10,000.

*Mr. Child* produced a Lloyd's List of 12th August, 1832, which stated that a piratical schooner, having on board thirty men, had been seen in lat. 30 long. 22.

#### MR. HILLIARD FOR THE PRISONERS.

*Mr. Hilliard.* Gentlemen of the jury: You are called upon today to exercise your vocation in a case of the most peculiar nature; in a case, a parallel to which we should seek for in vain in the criminal annals of this, and I almost said, in those of any other state or country. It is a serious thing, gentlemen, to sit in judgment, for life or death, upon a single individual. The performance of such a duty requires the