

have been heard in England. Let them look, too, at the conduct of Capt. Trotter. He was an officer of the British navy, stationed on the coast of Africa, with directions to use his exertions in suppressing the slave trade. He was there discharging the particular duty which had been assigned to him, and was under no obligation to trouble himself about pirates. But he receives information of the robbery of the American brig, and that the pirate is supposed to be on the African coast, and immediately goes in quest of her. What motive could this gallant officer have had to interfere in this matter, but a sense of justice, and a desire to protect the rights of the whole world? He had nothing to gain, and he might encounter a great deal of peril, obloquy and responsibility. Under these circumstances Capt. Trotter does interfere. He goes in search of the pirate. And you know, gentlemen, said the learned judge, it was no ordinary peril he encountered. Mr. Quentin has stated facts sufficient to prove to you the danger of the undertaking, even when the crew of the *Panda* were not on board to make resistance. Had the crew remained on board, and used the means in their possession, the loss of lives among the British, they being in open boats, must necessarily have been great.

Now what inducement had Capt. Trotter to encounter all this, but a high sense of public duty, not merely to his own country, but to the commercial world. It is said that there was something mysterious about the conduct of this brave officer. I have never observed anything of the kind, gentlemen, during this trial. It remains for you to say whether anything of the kind exists. His station was on the African coast, and he could not leave it without orders from home.* He made the capture and communicated it, where he was in duty bound to do, to the heads of the admiralty. We know that he did this, because we find that the British government taking cognizance of his act, and sending the prisoners to be

* In allusion to the remarks of Mr. Child as to the length of Capt. Trotter's cruise and no announcement having been made in the papers of his capture.