

lous literary hack, whose scurrilous pen was at the service of the highest bidder. To read his book, "The Prospect Before Us," and say the writer was not guilty of sedition was impossible; but what became of Callender was of little consequence, as every one knew the real contest would be between the Republican lawyers of the Virginia bar and Judge Samuel Chase, the most reckless, the most partisan, the most fearless judge on the bench of the Circuit Court. Long before the trial opened statements were made and sworn to that Chase had spoken his threats of what he would do; that he had commanded the marshal to see to it that none of the rascals called Democrats were put on the jury, and that in the presence of a great company he had shown how he would draw the best lawyers of Virginia across his knees and flog them out of their nullifying mood.

paid for his writing. It ceases to be surprising, therefore, that having begun his career in America by villifying Washington, he should, before he sank out of sight in the waters of the James River, have turned upon his old employers and loaded Jefferson with calumny and abuse." McMaster, Vol. 2, p. 468. "Mr. Jefferson, as soon as he became President, exercised his powers of pardon in favor of Callender, as well as all others, who had been convicted under the Sedition Law, and were then undergoing sentence of imprisonment. A little later he asked to be appointed Postmaster at Richmond, which was refused him. He took great offense at the refusal, and soon began writing in opposition to the new administration; and he openly justified his desertion, on the ground of ill-treatment he had received from Mr. Jefferson. He was of course welcomed by the new allies, and having connected himself with the editor of an obscure journal, recently established in Richmond (the Recorder), he poured forth against the Republican party generally, and Mr. Jefferson in particular, a torrent of scurrility and slander of which no example had been previously afforded in the United States, not even by himself. The private life of Mr. Jefferson, present and past, was the subject of the closest scrutiny; and, wherever he was believed to be vulnerable, no matter for what cause, or upon what evidence, he was unhesitatingly assailed in the grossest and most offensive way. . . . It remains to be added that, while this wretched libeller, who had now become an habitual sot, was disseminating his slanders and ribaldry with untiring virulence, he was one morning found drowned in the James River, where he had been bathing, it was supposed, in a state of intoxication." Tucker's Life of Jefferson, Vol. 2, p. 120.