

Sir:

I was recently employed in my professional capacity as attorney at law, as private counsel in a prosecution ~~instigated~~ for assault & battery, ~~instigated~~ by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania against two persons John & Richard Costello. The assault & battery was committed upon the person of Anna Maria Costello the wife of Cornelius Costello. When the case came on for trial - The Commonwealth vs Richard & John

Costello. The Commonwealth at my instance called the wife as a witness in the case - The Defendants called the husbands. I understand that your legal attainments have induced you to know that Mr Cornelius Costello the husband ~~was~~ ^{was} not in such a position as a witness in the ~~prosecution~~ ^{prosecution} & you were ~~accused~~ ^{on the right} ~~suggested to me~~ ^{by a very} ~~your legal~~ ^{public} ~~way of ignorance in this particular~~ ^{way of ignorance in this particular} - I think if you remember ~~it~~ ^{it} attempted to explain the affair to you I suppose that perhaps the ~~had~~ ^{had} ~~been~~ ^{been} ~~some~~ ^{some} ~~misrepresentation of the facts of the~~ ^{misrepresentation of the facts of the}

Case ~~of~~ your ~~continued~~ continuing to main-
tain the ground you assumed in the matter
I ~~be~~ ^{your} ~~infirmity~~ ~~are~~ ~~the~~ ~~other~~ ~~persons~~ ~~not~~ ~~bound~~
even of the same opinion & ~~supposing~~ ~~that~~
I went so far as to pronounce your ~~opinion~~
~~to be of~~ ~~value~~. I understand that the interest
you ~~take~~ ~~in~~ ~~this~~ ~~matter~~ ~~to~~ ~~prove~~
my incapacity in my profession has induced
you to consult counsel in Philadelphia
as to the point - and to publish it abroad
in Boston that such counsel ^{has} ~~has~~ ~~been~~ ~~given~~
you in the alleged ~~unlawful~~ ~~criticism~~
~~you~~ ~~have~~ ~~published~~ which your eminent
legal abilities & acquirements have indeed
occurred you to indulge in my case.
And, ~~after~~ ~~of~~ ~~course~~ ~~your~~ ~~unassisted~~
opinion is ~~not~~ ~~to~~ ~~be~~ ~~regarded~~ ~~as~~ ~~final~~
yet serious, when you publish among
a community in which I live & respect
in some measure professional respect, the
of ~~your~~ ~~ignorance~~ ~~or~~ ~~incapacity~~, or ~~your~~
mistake in the conduct of a suit on the
authority of the opinion of ~~the~~ Philadelphia
Council consulted by you in the case,
inferior to ~~your~~ ~~own~~ ~~as~~ ~~an~~ ~~ath~~ ~~to~~ ~~follow~~ -
I believe if I were not it is not your
fault -