

Clerk's Loose Papers
Judgments 1871

An Inquisition taken in Coles Township in the County of Prince William & State of Virginia on the third day of June 1871. Before John H. Orear acting coroner of the said county. Upon the view of the body of Charles S. Davis there hanging dead.

The Jurors sworn to enquire when how and by what means the said Charles S. Davis came to his death upon their oaths do say. That they believe from the evidence and surrounding circumstances the deceased came to his death by hanging himself to a limb of a tree, while laboring under a temporary aberration of mind. In testimony whereof the said coroner and jurors here to set their hands.

Jno H. Orear Act. Coroner
John L. Keys
Horace Cole
Thomas A. Herndon
F. M. Tendon
A. M. Weaks
M. W. Horton
James Keys
H. Carter
C. L. Cole
L. F. Cornwell
S. R. Lowe

The evidence of Miss Sarah Davis concerning the deceased avers that he showed symptoms of insanity for two or three weeks past, worse the evening before his death. On one occasion said he wanted to die. Left the house about an hour by sun without his shoes.

The evidence of John Taylor concerning the deceased before the coroner & jury he considered him insane, was sent for about 8 o'clock found the deceased hanging to a limb of a tree in the woods back of the house about 12 o'clock.

I believe from the evidence and surrounding circumstances that the deceased Charles L. Davis came to his death by hanging himself while laboring under temporary aberration of mind.

C. C. Barbour M.D.