

6 March 1836

Commonwealth vs Jesse Bates

The Commonwealth of Virginia, to the Sheriff of Prince William County, Greetings: You are hereby commanded to summon George Cockrell and Henry Chapman to appear before the Justices of our County Court of Prince William at the Court -House of the said county, on the 1st day of April court next, the truth to say in behalf of us in a certain matter of controversy in our said court, before our said Justices, depending and undetermined between The Commonwealth and Jesse Bates defendant. And this they shall in no wise omit, under the penalty of one hundred pounds.

Witness, John Williams, Clerk of our said court, at the Court-House, aforesaid, this 15th day of March 1836, and in the 60th year of our foundation. Jno Williams

Prince William County to Wit: To the Sheriff of the said County, Whereas Jess Bates a free colored man of the County aforesaid was this day committed to the jail of this county by my warrant for entering the stable of George Cockrell on the 5 inst. at night in Dumfries & there cutting & maiming three of his horses it appearing to me that the following offence wherewith he stands charged ought to be examined into by the court therefore on behalf of the Commonwealth I require you that you summon at least eight of the justices of your said county to meet at the Court House on the 12 day of March and then & there to hold a Court for examation of the fact with which the said Jess Bates stands charged and for such purposes concerning the premises and that you have then there this warrant. Given under my hand and seal this 6th March 1836.

To the Sheriff to
his Deputies of
Prince William County

W. S. Colquhoun

Prince William County to Wit: The Commonwealth of Virginia to the Sheriff of the said County and to all and singular the Commonwealths officers of justice in the said County Greetings: Whereas George Cockrell of Dumfries hath this day came before me W. S. Colquhoun a justice of the peace for the county aforesaid and hath made oath that he hath cause to suspect & do suspect that Jess Bates colored free negro did on the night of the 5th March inst. at Dumfries go to his the said Geo Cockrells stable and then and there did cut and maim three of his horses, one of them on the throat & the other two on the shoulder. These are therefore to require you to apprehend the said Jes Bates and bring him before me or some other justice of the peace for said County of Prince William to answer the premises and further to be dealt with according to law. Given under my hand and seal this 6th March 1836.

W. S. Colquhoun

Summon Witnesses
George H. Cockrell
Henry Chapman
Mrs. Gilbert Wellington

Prince William County to wit: Memorandum that upon this 6th day of March 1836 George Cockrell & Henry Chapman came before me the subscriber a justice of the peace for said county and acknowledged themselves indebted to L. W. Tazewell Governor of Virginia in the sum of fifty dollars each for their appearance at the court to be holden at Brentsville, Prince William County Court House there to give evidence in the case of the Commonwealth vs Jess Bates concerning matters wherein he is charged & that they do not depart from the court without leave of the said court then this allegation to be void else to remain.

Acknowledged before me

W. S. Colquhoun