

Dumfries, Va., October 1788

Box 1, Folder 7

Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

Letter from William Helm – charges against Jesse Ewell

Charge 2nd - Recommending John Lawson a private over John Linton a Lieutenant by a misrepresentation to the court, that the said John Linton acquiesced in the recommendation of the said Lawson; the direct contrary of which appeared the day following by Linton's having the matter properly discussed. The court finding themselves received by Col. Jesse Ewell's information discharged their order as to Lawson and recommended Linton

Charge 3rd – Recommending Charles Ewell Jun. a Nephew of the said Jesse Ewell who wants capacity and common understanding.

Charge 4th – Partial behavior on the 29th November 1787 at a general muster. Some of the Captains applied to the said Col. Jesse Ewell before the Battalion was formed to know in what manner the Companies were to fall in as he Col. Ewell had not applied in time to the Executive as he had promised on the 12th of October 1787 for a mode to settle their rank, he told them he hoped they would fall in promiscuously for once, on which they agreed. When they came on the parade and was forming the Battalion Mr. Charles Ewell, one of the Captains and a near relation of Col. Jesse Ewell said he would not fall in promiscuously but that he would take the right of the Battalion if was immediately objected to by two of the Captains saying that he had no more right than others. He still persisted in it. Col. Jesse Ewell rode up and on finding his Friend desirous of taking the right immediately agreed he should. The Captains complained and told Col. Ewell that he requested them to fall in promiscuously and when they agreed to that, supposed that no partial Friend would have the preference (or words to that purpose) he told them in reply that they might either go into Battalion with their Companies or march them home as they thought best and gave the said Charles Ewell the right to the Battalion.

Charge 5th – Incapacity as a disciplinarian in forming a regiment or Battalion not knowing the necessary and proper order of command to carry them through the evolutions pointed out by the Baron Steuben and approved of by the assembly of Virginia.

William Helm

Prince William to Wit:

Came before me Capt. William Helm and made oath that the above charges exhibited against Col. Jesse Ewell are true to the best of his knowledge & belief. Given under my hand this 25th day of October 1788.

Signed (Gro—aham?)

Richmond Goail, November 21st 1788

Box 1, Folder 8

Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

Dear Sir,

With your permission I here set down to make known to you my past conduct & requesting you to use your interest in getting my enlargement. I here will to the best of my knowledge confess, and acquaint, you with all my past life & conduct to the present day, & by what means I was led astray & brought to this unhappy situation in which you see me. I was born of good honest parents, brought up in the fear of God, to the Church of England till the death of my parents, which happened about three years ago, and after their death I labored hard in an honest manner for my living, all of which is well known by my county men and neighbours. I a little more than twelve months past, fell into bad company which is too often the case with youth, having no guide and got rather intoxicated, and being persuaded to join in executing this charge that I am in confinement for, which I confess I was guilty of. I can now & do call on the almighty God, who knoweth all things, to witness that this is the first, and last time, that ever I was guilty or, concerned in any crime of the like nature, and your being a visitor to this place of affliction ever since my confinement here, & having had frequent opportunities of seeing me, & an opportunity of hearing of my conduct here in this place of misery, makes me intrude at this time on your goodness, In requesting your assistance in using your interest with the Executive in getting my enlargement. I now think really & can say two with a good conscience that the Lord has opened my eyes & given me grace to know I have done wrong & will for the future in devour to do so as to conduct myself in a manner as becomes a good citizen & can say with a clear conscience that I have become a true penitent, sincerely from my heart for my past follies, which my future conduct shall make manifest, and my being confined here in chains was I suppose to bring me to the true since of my past follies, which effect it has taken and therefore with your assistance & goodness of the Executive will release me from this miserable confinement, your competence dear Sir, in the above request shall always be remembered and acknowledged by your very humble servant.

David Lock

Dumfries, Va., 6 December 1788
Box 1, Folder 8, Reel 5027
Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph
Luke Cannon deposition

The deposition of Col. Luke Cannon taken in a matter of difference between Co. Jesse Ewell & Capt. William Helm in the presence of the parties.

This deponent says he was present at a General Muster in the County of Prince William in November 1787 when a dispute arose among the officers about rank. When it was proposed by Col. Ewell that they should fall in promiscuously & this deponent thought they intended to do so, but on rising to the parade he found that Capt. Charles Ewell who had his company paraded, was determined not to fall in at all unless he could take the right of the Battalion, this deponent then went to Col. Ewell & informed him of it, upon which the Col. rode up to Capt. Ewell's Company whence if anything passed this deponent did not hear or does not recollect it. After Capt. Linton or Farrow asked Col. Ewell if he had wrote to the Governor as he had promised, to point out a mode for selling the Rank – The Col. answered he had. They also asked him if he had received an answer, he answered he had not. They then asked him the reason, he replied he would tell them at another time, & that if they did not choose to fall in as had been proposed, or as the Court had arranged them, they might march their companies away. And further this deponent saith not.

Luke Cannon

Prince William – The above deponent was taken in the presence of Colonel Jesse Ewell & Capt. William Helm & sworn to before me this 6th day of December 1788.

Alex Lithgow

This Deponent being asked by Capt. Helm whether Col. Ewell delivered this deponent a list by which the officers were to be called, answered he does not remember that he was.

Prince William County – The above interrogatory was at same time sworn to before me.

Alex Lithgow

Dumfries, Va., 6 December 1788
Box 1, Folder 8, Reel 5027
Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph
Jesse Ewell letter

To his Excellency the Governor & the Honorable the Privy Council. The memorial of Jesse Ewell relative to charges exhibited against him by William Helm humbly sheweth.

That your memorialist agreeable to his desire of establishing order & harmony among the officers of the Prince William Militia as well as to his promise made at a meeting of the field officers & captains on the 12th of October 1787, engaged Mr. John Pope (now in the senate at Richmond) to apply to your Honorable board for directions to settle the Rank of Officers acting under like commissions of the same date & in a letter which he is informed was laid before your Honorable Board, mentioned both the occasion & the time at which the answer was desired. That in April last upon application he readily assented that Mr. Pope should shew the letter to any persons desirous of seeing it. That he thought it more proper to wait for such an opportunity, than to send express & therefore after having appointed the General Muster to be held on the 15th of November by altering the order postponed it to the 29th.

Your memorialist with respect to the 2nd charge acknowledges his opinion that for the due execution of the Militia law, it is necessary to serve ever favorable opportunity of introducing to suitable posts among the officers of those who will accept commissions the most respectable either on account of their probity, abilities, that whereas several have been appointed not so much on account of their abilities as conveniences to a District, if an invariable of promotion by seniority be established, the officers of each company may soon be found in distant districts and it being probable that the most proper would not accept commissions as youngest ensigns without prospect of promotion according to their deserts, several resignations & removals may render the line so contemptible as to endanger the execution of the law.

With regret he informs your Honorable Board that at a second call for certificates of their former commissions none but the Captains Kincheloe, Peyton & Landford produced theirs at the Regimental Muster in April last. That only Captain Helm produced a certificate of his at the General Muster in October last & that then

judging it expedient to give further him to the other officers, he issued another order requiring them it or before the next Regimental Muster – that from his own knowledge Robert Hedges is the eldest acting Lieutenant in the County who joined in a petition to the court with the Company to promote Nathaniel Ralls a Sergeant to the command thereof & is not convenient to the Company formerly commanded by Overhall.

As to misrepresentation he refers to the certificate from the Clerk of the Court & to Mr. William Carr's deposition. He did not think it necessary to obtain the consent of Mr. John Linton (who had been recommended Ensign in June 1787 & a vacancy happening was promoted to the Lieutenancy in November following) much less to call a witness or require it to be written; he has no doubt but that the Court in consideration of the minority of the one & the experience of Mr. John Lawson (who marched as adjutant with the Prince William Regiment of Militia into Pennsylvania in 1777 & at his arrival at Head Quarters was appointed Brigade Major) would have preferred the letter if Linton had appeared & proved his claim. He had applied to several to take the command of the Company & enquired of Linton before the court met whether Mr. James Nisbeth who he was informed usually exercised the company would accept of it & be well received, on Linton's expressing a desire to be promoted. He enquired a fit person for a Lieutenant or Ensign if the Court should determine to promote one or both of them. It was chiefly in consequence of that conversation that after mentioning the vacancy to some of the Court, it was postponed until the said Linton came into the Court House. Your memorialist then walked out with him & affirms that after some arguments used Linton consented (as it appeared) with cheerfulness that Mr. Lawson should be recommended for the Captaincy. At the meeting of the Court after dinner he delivered up his commission & merited his Father's attention.

Your memorialist in answer to the 3rd charge must urge his desire of gratifying his officers especially in districts where he is not well acquainted & refers to the depositions of Solomon Ewell.

Respecting the 4th charge he is equally conscious of rectitude of conduct; not having obtained the wishes for arraignment he would not undertake to give precedence to any contrary to the arrangement made by the Court & therefore after a dispute arose required that they should form on that day as the Court had ranked them. He refers to the depositions of Mr. Richard Graham & of the Captains James & Cannon.

The necessary & proper words of command to carry a Regiment through the evolutions pointed out by the Barron Steuben & approved of by the Assembly of Virginia are not unknown to your memorialist; he commanded the Prince William Regiment during its four in Pennsylvania; & has not before this received a hint that his capacity was doubted – Capt. Helm has acknowledged that the 5th was added to swell the number of charges.

Jesse Ewell

Dumfries, Va., 2 December 1788

Box 1, Folder 7

Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

Robert Graham letter

Prince William County

I Robert Graham clerk of the court of the County aforesaid do hereby certify that at a Court continued and held for Prince William County aforesaid the second day of September one thousand seven hundred and eighty eight when William Tebbs, Jesse Ewell, James Ewell, Richard Graham, John Tyler, Henry Washington and Willoughby Tebbs, gentlemen justices were present the following orders were made (viz) "John Lawson is recommended to his Excellency the Governor as a Captain of Militia in the room of Robert Overall resigned – Vincent Gray as Lieutenant in the room of Bertram Ewell removed James Murren as Ensign in the room of Vincent Gray promoted, James Triplett as Lieutenant in the room of Walter Graham removed Cuthbert Harrison in the room of James Triplett promoted." And I do further certify that at a Court continued and held for the said County the third day of September in the year aforesaid when William Tebbs, William Carr, Richard Graham, Alexander Lithgow and Matthew Harrison gentlemen justices were present the following order was made (Viz,) "Ordered that the order made yesterday respecting the recommendation of John Lawson to succeeded to the command of the company lately commanded by Robert Overall, be abolished and that Colin Campbell as eldest Lieutenant be recommended to his Excellency the Governor to command the said Company. And further, that sometime after the said orders were made and during the term aforesaid, the court being informed that Colin Campbell was not the oldest Lieutenant, and taking the aforesaid orders into – consideration were of opinion that they could not proceed to recommend officers until their rank were respectively settle, and ordered that they should be erased – Which was done accordingly. Given under my hand this second day of December one thousand seven hundred and eighty eight.

Robert Graham

Green Level, 3 December 1788
Box 1, Folder 7,
Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph
Wm. Helm letter
(This letter is torn and parts illegible)

Sir,

I received yours dated the 18 of December the 15 is not yet come to my hands my not knowing new laws & customs was at a loss how to proceed had I supposed you meant to take Col. Ewell's commission instead of his _____. I would have shortened trial & _____ your most Honorable Board of the different troubles they have been at concer--- the dispute the reason my deposition did not reach you in time was this. I found myself at a loss how to proceed therefore was obligated to wait the motion of Col. Ewell who is but slow to see which of the charges he would endeavor to overset _____ he had made his feeble strok I then _____ it necessary to send down a few other depositions that might see the difference between smoothing a thing _____ plain fair thing. I feel myself a learned for fear of _____ premises one private enemy scares me more than a hundred public ones there is but few men who has arrived to his _____ of life let their conducts be what they _____ that has not accumulated some few friends. I felt myself injured by Col. Ewell & _____ to that most respectful _____ for _____ forth 5 charges 3 I hope I have supported the other 2 I do not think he will dispute if he does I can support one that that of _____ nephew by one hundred evidence his own abilities may be _____ if he will allow himself to be examined if I am mistaken. I most cheerfully acquiesce to your superior judgment _____ for ever remain your most obedient servant.

Wm. Helm

Dumfries, Va., 3 December 1788
Box 1, Folder 7,
Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph
To His Excellency Edmond Randolph Esquire, Governor of Virginia and the Honorable the Privy Council.
Jesse Ewell controversy

The subscribers, captains of the militia for the County of Prince William, beg leave most respectfully to remonstrate that none of the old officers having qualified to their commissions according to the Act of Assembly entitled an act to amend the act for regulating and discipline the militia and for other purposes" The County thereby became wholly without officers. That upon the 5th of June 1787 the Court of the County consisting of 4 Justices proceeded to a recommendation, in which were included a great number of the former Militia Officers, & some few who had never been in that service, and among the latter Charles Ewell Esq. that the rank of the officers not being settled. The commissions bearing the same date, when the captains met by appointment on the (blank) day of October 1787 for regulating the Companies a difficulty arose respecting their rank and they applied to Jesse Ewell Esq. the Colonel. (Henry Lee Esq. the County Lieutenant being dead) for information how it should be settled & proposed that as the law was silent on that head it should be done by an impartial ballot which was agreed to by every Captain present the said Charles Ewell excepted upon whose refusal the other Captains being about to proceed to settle their rank after the mode proposed. The said Jesse Ewell diverted it by promising that he would write to your honorable board to proscribe _____ one and for that purpose, as he said, deferred the general muster from the 15th to the 19th of November. That the said Jesse made no application to your honourable board until after the 7th of November 1787 upon which day he applied to the aforesaid court which at that time consisted of but four justices, & among other recommendations prevailed upon the court, or at least so it was, that the said Charles Ewell was recommended as Major over the heads of many older Captains, & which the subscribers believe would not have been the case, had the then court been fully informed, or a majority of the Justices in the county present. That immediately after, such of the subscribers as were informed of the conduct of the said Jesse applied to Willoughby Tebbs Esq. the Lieutenant colonel to lay a representation on their parts before your Honourable board & which they have been informed was done, the result of which they believe produced the regulations for the militia entered into by your Honourable Board upon the 20th of December 1787 the spirit of which they entirely agree in. they flattered themselves that the majority would have been made out for the eldest Captain. And they were informed of the contrary & that the majority was conferred upon the said Charles Ewell. They are far from arraigning the justice of your board, but they have been informed, that the said Jesse Ewell (having laid the recommendation of November 1787 before your honourable board) stated the matter in such a light as induced you to believe that the subscribers requested the appointment of the said Charles, the strict contrary of which they beg have to assure you in this case. They are desirous of discharging their duty in the militia, but as officers they cannot submit to have a junior raised

over them. They have no doubt of the justice of your honourable board, & pray that an inquiry may be made into the premise & that the majority may be conferred upon the eldest captain in the militia, agreeable to the constitution before the passing of the before recited act & they as in duty shall pray for the prosperity of the Commonwealth.

William Helm Capt.
Nathl. Ralls Capt.
Jno Kincheloe Capt.
Thos. Sanford Capt.
W. Wiatt Capt.
H. T.(?) Hampton Capt.
Burr Peyton Capt.
William Ashmore (Capt)
Luke Cannon Capt.
William Linton Capt.
William Farrow Capt.

Dumfries, Va., 3 December 1788
Box 1, Folder 7,
Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph
Wm. Linton letter
(This letter is torn and parts illegible)

Deposition of William Linton aged 30 years taken at the request of Capt. William Helm in a matter of dispute between him & Jesse Ewell Esq. County _____ of Prince William County.

At a meeting of the field officers & captains of Prince William County by an order of Colonel Jesse Ewell at the house of John Randolph sometime in October 1787 to lay of to each captain his company as the law required & after having met & done that business Colonel Ewell gave orders to the Captains to attend with their Companies at a General Muster at the same place on the 15th of November 1787. The Captains finding that there was no mode laid down by law to settle the rank of those officers whose commissions were of the same date & a vacancy then in the county for a Major applied to Colonel Ewell to point out some mode to them to settle theirs by, he told them he knew of no mode prescribed by law for settling rank, on which the whole of the Captain there present except Mr. Charles Ewell, agreed to settle by a Fair & Impartial ballot, Colonel Ewell told them if they would wait he would write to the Governor & Council to point out a mode to settle rank by and for that purpose postponed the General Muster from the 15th to the (torn paper) of November 1787 that he might have time to write & receive an answer before the General Muster, on which the Captains appeared to be well satisfied supposing that Colonel Ewell would write to the Governor & Council get an answer & have the rank settled before he would apply to the Court to have a Major recommended, but on the 7th of November as appears by record Mr. Charles Ewell is recommended to the Governor as Major, Myself & three other Captains being informed that Colonel Ewell had got Mr. Charles Ewell recommended as Major & finding that he had not wrote to the Governor as he had promised in October. Applied to Willoughby Tebbs Esq. Lieut. Colonel to lay a statement of the business before the Governor & Council which he did & which _____ produced the regulations for the Militia Officers _____ into by the Governor & Council upon the 20th of December 1787, on the 29th November 1787 at the General Muster I applied to Colonel Ewell to know in what manner the Companies were to form the battalion as he had not wrote as he had promised to get the rank settled he told me he was in hopes that they would fall in promiscuously for once, in which I agreed as I believe all the Captains did from what I understood after his speaking to me except Mr. Charles Ewell, when we got on the parade & was about to form the battalion, Capt. Charles Ewell said he would not fall in _____ but that he would have _____ the right to the battalion it was immediately objected by Capt. Farrow & Myself saying that he had _____ more than another as the rank was not settled & that Colonel Ewell had desired that the companies should fall in promiscuously he per—ted that he would have the right & that Col. Tebbs had told him to take it, Col. Tebbs rode up & _____ & told Capt. Ewell he was mistaken, Col. Jesse Ewell then rode up & on finding Capt. Ewell contending for the right agreed that he should have it Capt. Farrow & myself complain & told Col. Ewell that he requested us to fall in promiscuously & when we agreed supposed that no partial friend would have a _____ or words to that purpose he told us in reply that we might either march our men in to battalion or _____ as we thought best and gave Capt. Ewell the right. Colonel Ewell & myself went to Mr. Thos. _____ Muster whose I mentioned to him something of his _____ Capt. Ewell to right, he said he must confess he was a little tardy there & further this deponent saith not.

William Linton

Prince William County to Wit:

The above deposition being taken in presence of Colonel Jesse Ewell was sworn to by me this 9th day of December 1788.

Alex Lithgow

Dumfries, Va., 6 December 1788

Box 1, Folder 7

Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

Richard Graham letter

The deposition of Richard Graham of full age. Taken at the request of Col. Jesse Ewell in presence of Capt. William Helm. This deponent saith that as a Justice of Peace for Prince William County he was on the Bench when the Court were recommending Officers for the Militia of said County. And that after recommending Col. Thos. Lee as County Lieutenant, Col. Ewell as Colonel & Col. James Ewell as Lieut. Colonel. The Court were at a loss who to appoint or recommend as Major there being no certainty who was at that time the oldest captain and induced from deaths, resignations &c. there were no Captains of long standing in the County. This induced this deponent to propose that the court should look out for some officers that had served in the regulars to fill the places of Major and mentioned Capt. Charles Ewell as a proper person which seemed to be agreed to, but soon after one of the magistrates then on the Bench observed that as Col. Lee was in a low state of health it was probable that there would soon be three Colonels from the same family. Then this deponent mentioned Mr. William Tebbs as an Old Continental Officer the court thought he might do very well, he was accordingly sent for to know if he would serve accordingly. I agreed to act in that capacity – when the Court began to recommend the Captains, Col. Ewell was called on to give a list of the Captains & Lieutenants - which he did but from the want of the commissions it was impossible for the court to come at the rank of such captains as were then in existence – it was generally agreed that either Capt. Farrow or Capt. Helms was the oldest but as Capt. Farrow succeeded Capt. Fitzhugh and Captain Helm succeeded Capt. Maddox – And Triplett having died before Maddox (as the Court were then informed) it was taken for granted that Capt. Farrow was the oldest but upon this deponent asking Col. James Ewell if he thought Capt. Charles Ewell would act as first Captain he answered in the affirmative upon this he was recommended as first Captain but whether this was done on the same day that were recommended this deponent does not recollect – but he remembers that in coming down from the Court House to dinner this deponent asked Captain Farrow if he was the oldest Captain he answered that he really was not certain, he then asked him what he thought of Capt. Charles Ewell as oldest Captain he said that as Capt. Ewell was an old Continental Officer he could have no objection to him, or words to that purpose – On being interrogated by Col. Ewell this deponent says that the court had the Captains, Lieutenants, & Ensigns all listed off and put on the recommendation as they conceived they stood in seniority except Capt. Ewell who was intended by the court to be first captain.

And farther saith not

Richard Graham

Prince William County to Wit, December 6th 1788 sworn to before

Alexander Lithgow

Dumfries, Va., 6 December 1788

Box 1, Folder 7

Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

Jno Linton Jun. letter

The deposition of John Linton Jun. in a dispute between Colonel Jesse Ewell and Captain William Helm deposeth and saith that early in the day that Mr. Lawson was recommended a Capt. over me, I was met by Colonel Ewell who ask me if I wished to command the Company I was then Lieutenant in, my answer was yes – he then ask me if I thought Mr. Nisbett would serve as Lieutenant in the Company I told him I believe he would not. Col. Ewell then told me that as Mr. Johnstone would be recommended as Lieutenant if I was Captain & that I might recommend as Ensign any person in the Company that I thought proper. I then told him of Mr. Gains which he seemingly approved of. We then parted & some time before the court broke for dinner I went to the Court House & was taken out by Col. Ewell & told that Mr. Tyler who was one of the Court objected to my being recommended Captain as not being old enough & that the Court thought of recommending Mr. John Lawson. I then told him if the Court thought proper to recommend Mr. Lawson that I must submit to their recommendation & further saith not.

Jno Linton Jun.

Prince William County to wit:

The above deponent acknowledging that he is not twenty years of age until next January but Colonel Jesse Ewell objecting reports of his evidence respecting to same ____ put to the above deponent –which he at this time does not recollect – The above was accordingly admitted & sworn to before me this 6th of December 1788

Alex. Lithgow

Prince William County, Va., December 8th 1788

Box 1, Folder 7

Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

John Tyler Letter

John Tyler aged sixty three one of the sitting magistrates when John Lawson was proposed Captain over John Linton lieutenant, being deposed saith that Jesse Ewell told Capt. Carr that Mr. Overall had resigned his captains commission and that John Lawson was willing to accept of it & John Linton was a very young man this deponent answered that John Linton was in his one and twentieth year, Jesse Ewell replied John Linton was willing to give up to John Lawson, this deponent further saith that he told Jesse Ewell as John Linton was convenient he had best make application to him just as the court was about to rise to go to dinner Jesse Ewell told this deponent he had seen John Linton and he was willing to give up to John Lawson and this deponent saith as he left the bench he heard Jesse Ewell speak to the clerk but what he said he knows not & that the question never was, but to the court who should be Capt. in his hearing and further this deponent saith not.

Henry Washington

John Tyler Sen.

Dumfries, Va., December 9, 1788

Box 1, Folder 7

Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

William Farrow Letter

The deposition of William Farrow was taken in the presence of Wm. Helm & Jesse Ewell. Sometime in October 1787 Colonel Jesse Ewell collected the officers of the militia to meet at John Randolph's in order to settle their rank. I according to orders met when several proposals was made. The officers in general proposed balloting for rank which was agreed to by all present except Capt. Charles Ewell. Col. Jesse Ewell then said he must apply to the governor and council to point out some mode to settle the rank. Colonel Jesse Ewell then approved the general muster the 15 day of November following but on questioning said the time was full short when order was given to meet the 29th of month. When we met the Militia was ordered under arms I ordered my men to fall in at Randolph's house where I joined Capt. Linton's, we marched to the field which was near half a mile from the house when Capt. Linton made a halt to receive orders where he should parade the adjutant. In a short time rode to Capt. Linton and myself which was standing and ordered were to move to Col. Ewell where he was setting on his horse. At the distance of forty or fifty yards from us, the Captains I think collected at the same time and place. Col. Jesse Ewell to the best of my remembrance said we might fall in for that time promiscuously. Asked Col. Jesse Ewell if he had received an answer from the governor. The Col. made answer no. I asked the reason the Col. said he would tell us all a bought it at another time and more further said those who did not choose to fall in on the side of Capt. Charles Ewell might march their company where they pleased on which I turned to my company in order to discharge them but on reflection thought I should lay myself open, Marched and joined Capt. Linton who joined Capt. Charles Ewell on the left. This deponent further saith that Mr. Richard Graham asked him which was the oldest Captain the said deponent or Capt Helm, I made for answer I did not know but as to saying I was perfectly satisfied with Capt. Ewell being the oldest Capt. I never made any such answer to the best of my knowledge and further this deponent saith not.

William Farrow

9 December 1788

Prince William County to Wit:

The within deposition being taken in the presence of Colonel Jesse Ewell was sworn to before me this 9th day of December 1788.

Alexander Lithgow

Dumfries, Va., December 9, 1788

Box 1, Folder 7

Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

John Williams' deposition

This deposition of John Williams aged twenty one years or thereabouts being sworn, in a dispute between Colonel Jesse Ewell and Captain William Helm, this deponent deposeth and saith that he acted in the capacity of Deputy Clerk of the County Court of Prince William on the second day of September 1788 when Mr. John Lawson was recommended to his Excellency the Governor as a captain of a company of Militia in the said County lately commanded by Robert Overall. And further this deponent saith that when he began to enter the said order the Court rose for Dinner and some of the Justices (if not the whole) left the Court except Colonel Jesse Ewell, at that time a member of the Court, who waited and directed the said order, together with several others respecting the recommendation of Militia Officers to be entered on the minutes of the Court and further saith not.

John Williams
December 9th 1788

Prince William County to wit:

The above deposition being taken in the presence of Colonel Jesse Ewell & Captain William Helm was sworn to before me this 9th day of December 1788.

Alexander Lithgow

Dumfries, Va., 10 December 1788**Box 1, Folder 8, Reel 5027****Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph****Alex. Lithgow deposition**

I the subscriber being called on by Capt. William Helm to give my deposition in a manner of dispute at present depending between the said Helm & Col. Jesse Ewell – this subscriber being first sworn deposeth 7 saith, that at a court there was held for Prince William County he was on the bench as a magistrate for said county – that a nomination of officers was proposed and took place and that in the nomination a certain Charles Ewell son of James Ewell was nominated to some rank is an officer for the Militia of Prince William County, and that the said nomination to the best of this appointment. Knowledge was made by the before mentioned Jesse Ewell, but in what year, what month or what day this nomination took place this deponent does not remember & further saith not.

Alex. Lithgow

Prince William County – The above deposition was sworn to before me this 10th day of December 1788

Burr Harrison

Dumfries, Va., 13 January 1789**Box 1, Folder 7****Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Randolph****Letter from Jesse Ewell**

Honorable Sir,

In consequence of the advice of counsel of the 18th of December last (which you did me the honor to enclose to me) & of the unexpected want of recollection in some whose depositions have been forwarded to the Executive respecting my orders for arranging the Captains in Battalions on the 29th of November 1787. I have thought it necessary to send other proof of those orders & take the liberty of inclosing it to you to be laid before your honorable Board.

I expected that the testimony of the Adjutant with that of Mr. Richard Graham would be sufficient for me against the 4th charge exhibited by Capt. Helm but at the meeting to take depositions Capt. Cannon mentioned that what he told me he recollected a few days before of the list of Officers given him, as arranged by the Court after consideration appeared doubtful & he could not insert it in his deposition. I was therefore obliged to call on Capt. James – when Capt. James read his deposition Capt. Farrow denied being present, alleging that he continued with his own company – yet he has given a circumstantial deposition.

The appearance of a dispute on the parade convinced me that I had judged improperly when I desired in presence of some of the Captains, that they would fall in promiscuously – if I did not in the evening at Mr. Attwell's satisfy Capt. Linton that I ought sooner to have adopted pro tempore the arrangement of the Court; I endeavored

afterwards in conversations to convince him that it would have been highly improper to direct any other arrangement before an answer was received from the Executive.

Notwithstanding the contradiction given to the 2nd charge by the clerk's certificate & Mr. Wm. Carr's deposition. The testimony of Mr. John Linton is introduced to support it – although length of time wears many impressions from the memory, what is recent & interesting cannot easily be forgotten – if Mr. Linton through inattention cannot recollect that I first mentioned Mr. Nesbitt as his Captain & afterwards as Lieutenant – the circumstance of stopping at the door of the Court House on a reposition of his desire to be promoted, when I told him I did not know but the Court might recommend him notwithstanding his want of age & his full consent afterwards that Mr. Lawson should be recommended. I must suppose rather dissembled than forgotten. Therefore I objected to his deposition rather than suffer him to insert in it his answers to my interrogatories. I have also enclosed my own affidavit, uncertain in what light it may be considered – if Linton had continued desirous of having his name mentioned to the Court with Mr. Lawson's be certainly would have returned into the Court house to be present at the recommendation, or would have mentioned his desire to his relation Mr. John Tyler, or to some other person on the bench or attending the court.

By Mr. John Williams' deposition it would appear that nothing was represented to the court – but the Court approved of the persons recommended before the entries were made, & no objection was offered in the evening at the reading of the orders – The names of the subalterns were given to me by their Captains James & Cannon – to fill the Captaincy I consulted with Col. Tebbs & Capt. William Linton the former was of opinion that it should be offered to Mr. Colin Campbell an old Lieutenant who then refused it – the latter could not inform whether Mr. Nesbitt would accept it, but thought it right that his brother John should be promoted, who at length consented that the line should be benefited by Mr. John Lawson's experience.

It has been urged that the rules for adjusting the proceedings of Militia Officers establish an invariable rule of promotion according to seniority & it is expected the justices will not readily under & fill up further vacancies, until an explanation or some hint on the subject be received from the Executive.

I have the honor to be with the greatest respect. Your most obedient servant.

Jesse Ewell

Dumfries, Va., 13 January 1789

Box 1, Folder 7

Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

Letter from Jesse Ewell

When I walked out of the Court House with Mr. John Linton Jun. early in the day on the 2nd of September 1788. I first mentioned to him that there would be only one objection against his promotion, which could never be made to him again as it was want of age, that Mr. Tyler thought a Captain ought to be of full age & that he the said Linton was in his twenty first year but had not completed it. After some little conversation I told him I did not know but the Court might recommend him notwithstanding his want of age, at which he repeated his desire to be recommended if agreeable to the Court. Then stopping at the door we retired again a small distance, & after I observed among other things, that the greater duty required of a Captain would balance the honor of the like, I urged that the line would be much more benefited by Mr. Lawson's promotion, than by any ensign to his company, he consented without proviso or condition, & as it appeared to me with cheerfulness, that Mr. Lawson should be recommended to command the Company.

Jesse Ewell

Prince William County to wit:

Colonel Jesse Ewell made oath to the truth of the above before me this 13th January 1789

Richard Graham

Dumfries, Va., 13 January 1789

Box 1, Folder 7

Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

Letter from James Boag

At Colonel Jesse Ewell's request, I deliver upon oath what I recollect to have passed at a muster on the 29th of November 1787 relative to the settling of the rank of the Battalion - Our Company (Capt Ewell's) was drawn up some distance from the others; when Col. Ewell rode up and reviewed us. Almost immediately came up Captain Linton and Lieut. Campbell – Col. Ewell told them, that having the honour to command that day, the companies

were to arrange themselves, as described in the papers he held in his hand; this he claimed was the order in which the court had arranged them, but this was not to be a precedent, but the ranks would be afterwards settled to their satisfaction.

Words to this import was delivered by Col. Ewell when Captain Linton proposed to draw lots. To this Col. Ewell objected, and told Captain Linton to draw up as was ordered, or muster his men and leave the field. Upon this Col. Ewell delivered the papers to Adjutant Cannon, who rode up to them, as the deponent thinks, during this conversation. Adjutant Cannon took the papers, and as the deponent can recollect began to read – Though from some circumstance he left abruptly and our company some little time afterwards peaceably took the right of the Battalion.

James Boag

The above deposition was taken by consent of the parties and sworn to by Doctor James Boag of full age before me.

Richard Graham

January 13, 1789

Dumfries, Va., 13 January 1789

Box 1, Folder 7

Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Randolph

Letter from James Smith

Dumfries, Prince William County viz: 13 January 1789 – James Smith being sworn & examined by Richard Graham, justice of peace for the County. Deponent that he was at the general muster of Prince William County Militia in fall 1787 and remembered that before going from Randles house down to the field of parade standing in _____ with Capt. Charles Ewell then in nomination for Major & Mr. James James then Lieut. To Capt. Ewell; Captain Helm came up & inquired of Mr. Ewell if whether he intended to rank as Captain or major that day he answered uncertain yet which Capt. Helm offered he should determine before the men fell in. As should Mr. Ewell rank Major hr should in----- for _____. Mr. James then brushed Mr. Ewell aside with “Damm how can you rank Major without a commission – when Mr. Ewell returned told Mr. Helm “ I believe I shall continue my commission as Captain for this day” or words similar. Soon after Capt. Ewell’s company marched down to the field & formed, the other companies followed & _____. Col. Jesse Ewell came in front of ___ company where Mr. James enquired what was about to be done (a _____ having arose amongst the officers about preceeding) The Col. answered he knew no other method to adjust the rank, than that the companies should fall in agreeable to the rule of court, till the claims should be established by some higher authority.” Or words to that amount, adding he had given orders to that purpose & that he had allowed those who were unwilling to fall in as ranked by the court to call their respective rolls & dismiss their men as soon after the whole of the companies marched & formed in battalions to the left of Capt. Charles Ewell’s company.

James Smith

Prince William County to wit;

The above deposition taken by consent of the parties and sworn to by Mr. James Smith being of full age before me.

Richard Graham

January 13, 1789

Rasberry Plain, May 30th 1789

Box 2, Folder 12

Governors Executive Papers –Beverly Randolph

George Quick plea

Sir,

I take the liberty to enclose to your Excellency two petitions in favor of certain George Quick who is under sentence of death at Dumfries having signed one of them; any observations on his case would from me be superfluous. I am acquainted with near all the signers to the other petition; they are in general substantial farmers and men of respectable character. Should it please your Excellency and the Council to grant the prayer of the petitions the necessary orders on the subject will be conveyed to Dumfries by the bearer John Quick brother to the unfortunate young man.

I have the Honor to be with respect

Your Excellency’s most obedient servant

Ste Thos. Mason

May 30th 1789

Box 2, Folder 12

Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

George Quick support petition

To his Excellency Beverly Randolph Esquire Governor of Virginia the petition of sundry inhabitants of the County of Loudoun.

We the Subscribers, whose names are underwritten, have for a long time been neighbours to & well acquainted with George Quick, late of the County of Loudoun, convicted of horse stealing at the District Court held at Dumfries. From long acquaintance with the Man, we beg leave to represent to your Excellency that, the same Quick is an extremely simple ignoramus descended of very reputable parents & until this unhappy event has always been considered as a very honest inoffensive one. His extreme ignorance, youth & inexperience, which on this occasion has rendered him the easy instrument of villainy, in the hands of another far more guilty than himself, has warmly interested all this Neighbourhood in his favour. Our knowledge of the fact for which he stands convicted & which was perpetrated in this Neighbourhood, authorized us to assure your Excellency that, the most guilty person has had artifice enough to screen himself from the punishment he justly deserved, and fix it upon a simple youth, who never would have thought of such a thing, but from counsel and artful persuasion of a certain Daniel Hart. Hoping (should your Excellency's clemency be extended to him) that the long confinement & dread of inevitable death, which at this time must pray upon the mind of this unhappy wretch, will effectually deter him from offences of the like nature in future; we are induced humbly to supplicate from your Excellency, that Clemency in favour of this unfortunate youth.

George Smith (his mark)

Peter Jacobs (his mark)

Nicholas Osborn

Andrew Myers

John Bearer

John Lyons

Abraham Osborn

Thomas Hall

John Conrad

John Edwards(his mark)

Christian Millar

Robert White

James Griffith

Isreal Thompson

Conrad Neeres (his mark)

Jonathan Conrad

John Shedacker (his mark)

John Clise

James McBride

Jeams Nealson (his mark)

David Potts

John Demmory (his mark)

John Woolf

Henry Keen (his mark)

Jacob Miller

Mahlon Hough

Samuel Clandisen

Dumfries, Va., June 1, 1789

Box 2, Folder 6

Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

Jail Escape

To the Honorable the Governor & Council of Virginia

Gentlemen,

The following criminals who were convicted of horse stealing at Dumfries, April Court, have made their escape out of the jail of the district comprising the Counties of Fairfax, Loudoun, Fauquier, & Prince William to wit:

Jett Roach is a native of Virginia about twenty five years of age, near six feet high, had on when he made his escape an old ozmal coat, a knitt jackett, an old pair of brown beeth ceating overalls, an ozna. shirt, an old pair of yarn, stockings and a pair of mochisons better than half wore, talks very bold when challenged, he is well acquainted in North and South Carolina.

George Quick about twenty one or two years of age, five foot seven or eight inches high, had on a short brown coat and jacket, an ozna. shirt, fustian collered linen or cotton trowsers, a pair of blue yarn stockings and a

pair of course shoes, he has a pretty round face, stamers gribish a good deal when spoken to, is of British extraction and was born in Loudoun County. Talks much in the British way; he had on a round felt hat about half worn, it is expected they will take the beach road to the Carolinas. Quick's father lives at a place called Bearen Town, it is thought he or both will make that way.

This is an accurate a description of them as I can give. I have been advised to inform your Honour of this matter by the Honorable Mr. Bullitt & other gentlemen of this place.

I am with the greatest respect
Your most obedient servant
John Campbell K. D.D.Jail

Mr. Dixon will publish after the proclamation the above description of the criminals as marked with Collis Campbells name & ____ of office.

A. Blair C.B.

Richmond, Va. June 12, 1789

Box 2, Folder 6

Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

Proclamation

Whereas Jett Roach & George Quick who were convicted of horse stealing at a District Court holder at Dumfries on the 15th day of May last, did on the 29th of the same month make their escape from the Jail of the said District. I have therefore thought fit by & with the advice of the Council of State to issue this my proclamation hereby offering a reward of fifty dollars to any person who shall apprehend & deliver to the public jailor at Dumfries either of the above named criminals.

Given under my hand as Governor
And under the seal of the Commonwealth
Richmond, this 5th day of June 1789
Beverly Randolph

Dumfries, Va., July 30, 1789

Box 2, Folder 12, accession #40287

Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

Commonwealth vs George Quick - Jail Escape

To His Excellency Beverly Randolph Esq., Governor of Virginia, Richmond

I Colin Campbell keeper of the Dumfries District Jail do hereby certify that David Bates and John Richardson both of Loudoun County did this day deliver into my custody a certain George Quick, who was convicted of horse stealing at a District Court held at Dumfries on the 15th day of May last, and the 29th of said month made his escape from the Jail of the said District in Company with a certain Jett Roach who was also convicted of horse stealing at the same time, as appears by his Excellency the Governors proclamation, and my advertisement.

Given under my hand as keeper of the
Said Jail at Dumfries this 30th July 1789
Colin Campbell

Dumfries, Va., August 1st 1789

Box 2, Folder 12, accession #40287

Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

Commonwealth vs George Quick - Jail Escape

To His Excellency Beverly Randolph Esq., Governor of Virginia, Richmond

Sir,

George Quick who was convicted of horse stealing at the last Circuit Court held at this place & made his escape from the Jail of the said District the 29th of May last, was delivered to me the 30th July by a Mr. Bales & John Richardson of Loudoun County. He is now confined in my custody and await the further orders of your Excellency.

Sir, I have the honor to be your
Excellency's most obedient & most
Humble Servant
Colin Campbell K. D. D. J.

Dumfries, Va., September 27th 1789

Box 2, Folder 12, accession #40287

Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

Commonwealth vs George Quick - Jail Escape

To His Excellency Beverly Randolph Esq., Governor of Virginia, Richmond

I do humbly certify that Mr. Samuel Wood of Culpepper County hath this day delivered into my custody the body of Jett Roach who was convicted of horse stealing at the last District Court held for the District of Dumfries May last. And made his escape from the Jail of the said District on the 29th day of May.

Given under my hand this day and year aforesaid

Colin Campbell K.D.D.J.

He has committed several thefts in houses since his escape from this Jail, as will appear by a certificate in possession of Mr. Wood. He found him in the Jail of Burns County in North Carolina. Wood found his horse in Rutherford County, North Carolina in possession of Joshua Hampton. J. Roach had been branded & his ears cut for horse stealing in that State.

Colin Campbell

Dumfries, Va., September 29th 1789

Box 2, Folder 12, accession #40287

Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

Commonwealth vs George Quick - Jail Escape

To His Excellency Beverly Randolph Esq., Governor of Virginia, Richmond

Sir,

Jett Roach who has been convicted at this District Court held in May last for horse stealing and made his escape from the Jail of the said District on the twenty-ninth day of the said month, was delivered to me last Sunday by a Mr. Samuel Wood of Culpepper County, who followed the said Roach to B----- County in North Carolina in order to recover a horse that he stole from him the Wood, Roach was in the Jail of B----- County when Wood got there, and had received punishment for theft committed there. The punishment both ears cropped and branded on both (he was whipped & pillared) he has been guilty of several thefts in the horse way in the neighbouring counties since he made his escape from this jail. I have been requested to give your Excellency this short sketch of this character by a number of gentlemen of and about this place. Therefore he now waits your Excellency's further order. I have the honor to be your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant.

Colin Campbell K. D. D. J.

Dumfries, Va., October 1st 1789

Box 2, Folder 12 Accession #40287

Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

John Linton Letter

To his Excellency the Governor and the Honorable the Council of the State of Virginia

The memorial of John Linton humbly sheweth that in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty three, your memorialist was in the nomination for the Inspector of Tobacco for the Town of Dumfries and was by the then Governor appointed one of the principal inspectors for that warehouse. That possessing the approbation of the community and being well satisfied of his capacity to execute his office. Your memorialist was induced to fix himself for a permanent residence in the Town of Dumfries by the purchase of a lot and erecting thereon buildings suitable for his family. The sum expended in which would have been laid out in lands had he not depended on enjoying the emoluments of his office during his good behavior. That he did exercise the office of inspector from the above mentioned time of his appointment (without hearing any complaints) until a nomination court held for the County of Prince William in September last, when that court thought proper to displace him unheard, and without his having had any previous notice of a charge – which conduct your memorialist humbly conceives was arbitrary and not warranted by precedent or authority; and has not only been destructive of his interest in the way above shewn but what is still more grating to him in his declining years – his good named which he hath always fairly supported is affected – Your memorialist having then been deprived by the court of a hearing in a matter of such consequence ___ to him, humbly prays that the charges against him if any may be brought before you, which is the only means he can devise of procuring Justice, and that unless ___ just cause be shewn to the contrary he may be reinstated in his office.

John Linton

We the subscriber's merchants of Dumfries and others do hereby certify that the facts contained in the above memorial are true as we believe. Given under our hands this first of October 1789 excepting that respecting the notice not being given to Mr. Linton of which we cannot have knowledge.

A. Henderson
Timothy Brundege
James Murray
Wm. Barnes
Richard Scott
Hugh Fergusson
Gust. B. Campbell
Colin Campbell

James Muschett
Bernard Gallagher
John Donnelly
David W. Scott
___ __ Trenis
James James
Hector Alexander

Green Level, Va., October 1st 1789
Box 2, Folder 12 Accession #40287
Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph
William Helm letter

To his Excellency the Governor and the Honorable the Council of the State of Virginia

Sir,

Enclosed you will find my Commission with thanks for your compliment, though beg the favour that you will not appoint me to any publick post at all for it is my wish until I can reconcile myself to lie a partisan to keep as close of publick posts as possible it is true I have made a small stroke at one of our grand party but I will promise him if he will excuse me for it I will do so no more. I have heard an old proverb that honesty is the best policy; but I can venture to say an honest man cannot always come at justice.

From your obedient servant

Wm. Helm – October 17th 1789

Copy of Commission enclosed

The Commonwealth of Virginia
To William Helm gentleman, Greetings:

Know you that from the special trust and confidence, which is reposed in your fidelity, courage, activity, and good conduct, our Lieutenant Governor (the Governor being absent, and having previously notified his intention of being absent to the Privy Council, and such intention having been entered on their Journals) upon the recommendation of the County Court of Prince William doth appoint you the said William Helm Captain in the Militia of the said County of Prince William to take rank as such from the 5th day of June 1787.

In testimony whereof these our letters are made patent. Witness the honorable BEVERLEY RANDOLPH, ESQUIRE, our said Lieutenant Governor, at Richmond, this 13th day of June 1787.

(Registered) T. Meriwether

(signed) Beverley Randolph

Dumfries, Va. 1789
Box 2, Folder 12
Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph
Commonwealth vs George Quick

To his Excellency Beverly Randolph Esq. Governor & Chief Magistrate of Virginia

We whose names are underwritten were present at the trial of George Quick late of the County of Loudoun, who was condemned for horse stealing at the District Court held at Dumfries, and although we were satisfied that he had committed the fact, & that the sentence of the law could not have been different, from that which has been passed upon him, yet there appears to us such mitigating circumstances in his case as in our opinion point him out a proper object of pardon. His youth, the great simplicity of his temper & manners, his former good character, the circumstance of his having been in this instance the dupe of an artful old knave & the means used to draw from him that confession on which he was convicted, all strongly interested the feeling of humanity in our minds, & prompt us now to address ourselves to your Excellency in his behalf & to solicit for him, that mercy which we ___ persuaded you will take a pleasure in exercising when a youth such as this present themselves. We conceive the case of this unfortunate youth to be one _____ when the wisdom of our constitution in vesting in the Executive a

power of pardoning offenders, & we are persuaded that the exercise of this power in the present case will be attended with no bad consequences that will give great satisfaction to many worthy citizens & will be displeasing to none. We therefore hope that this application will not be _____ & that the unhappy youth may be returned to society against which he has for the first time offended.

Edward Carter Jr.
Charles Marshall
Ch. Simms
Thos Swann
___ Brooke
Richard Brent

Thos. Mason
Langhorn Dade
William Tyler
John T. Mason
___ Ellsey
John Pope

John Love, Deputy Attorney for
The District of Dumfries

Dumfries, Va., March 12th 1790
Box 4, Folder 1
Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph
Death of Col. Grayson

Sir,

I take this early opportunity to inform you that Col. Grayson departed this life today between the hour of ten and eleven o'clock. I have the honor to be Sir.

Your very obedient and humble servant
Thos Lee Jr.

Dumfries, Va., March 13th 1790
Box 4, Folder 1
Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph
Death of Col. William Grayson

Sir,

I find myself called upon to communicate to the Executive the very disagreeable intelligence of the death of the Honorable William Grayson, which happened at this place yesterday about eleven o'clock.

I have the honor to be
Your obedient servant
Alexander Henderson

Dumfries, Va., June 8th 1790
Box 4, Folder 9
Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

Honorable Sir,

The anxiety I have felt since arrested on charges exhibited by Captain William Helm has to render application to the Executive subject I conceive may have the same effect as would a formal memorial to the honorable board.

After several applications for trial & a disappointment occasioned by the indisposition of Col. Fitzgerald, every member appointed to constitute the court met in October court & in presence of the parties, examined the witnesses on both sides & took their depositions – everything appearing as set forth in my memorial which accompanied depositions taken in consequence of the advice of counsel of the 6th of November 1788, the unanimity of the court could not be doubted – unfortunately the papers intended to be forwarded to the Executive were lost in Major Brent's Portmankau & no copies retained.

Colonel Fitzgerald was prevailed on to appoint another meeting which he fixed to the 15th of May when very few of the officers attended – in the afternoon I mentioned to Capt. Helm my apprehension of a disappointment, he said he did not come on that business for he had determined not to attend another meeting. I told him there was a necessity for having the business finished, he replied he had written to the Governor that he should do no more in it – I had before been informed that he enclosed his commission & desired the Court-Martial to forward it to his Excellency.

The opinion of that Court being buried in silence, he may suppose that if another trial can be obtained, his non attendance will give it an exparte appearance; but his witnesses are known & may be called upon at anytime.

Another full meeting of the officers first appointed cannot be had but in consequence of another order from the Executive therefore if it is improper to call for a certificate of the Court judgment, with the evidence on which it was founded viz. the depositions of all who were sworn on the trial taken by Commissioners appointed for that purpose. I hope those officers, or some of them, or any who could be easily convened, will be directed to proceed again without further delay. That the publick may be informed whether I had merited censure or not.

A view of the hideous garb in which the charges are dressed must shew me to be equally entitled to a speedy trial with those under criminal prosecutions.

I am with greatest respect Sir.
Your very obedient servant
Jesse Ewell

Dumfries, Va., August 7th 1790

Box 4, Folder 18,

Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

Prince William County Court, August the 7th 1790. Ordered that Alexander Brown and Burr Harrison, gentlemen be recommended to his Excellency the Governor as proper persons one of whom may be appointed to execute the duties of Sheriff of this County.

Teste, Robt. Graham, Cl. Cur.

Dumfries, Va., September 7th 1790

Box 4, Folder 18

Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

Honorable Sir,

Enclosed is an order of Prince William Court recommending me to the appointment of Sheriff. I therefore pray a commission as speedily as possible.

I am your obedient servant
Alex Brown
Sept. 7th 1790

Dumfries, Va., September 7th 1790

Box 5, Folder 3

Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Beverly Randolph

Prince William County Court, September the 7th 1790, Present, Richard Graham, Alexander Brown, Matthew Harrison, Alexander Lithgow, Bernard Hooe, Henry Washington, The Reverend Thomas Harrison and Willoughby Tebbs, gentlemen justices.

Ordered that a copy of the List of Justices &c now presented to the court be transmitted to the Executive for their inspection together with the following re-commendation.

Ordered that Philip Fitzhugh, John Brown, Richard Scott Blackburn, William Downman, Charles Tyler, John Brown (B.R.) and Charles Ewell gentlemen be recommended as proper persons to execute the duties of Justices of the peace in this County.

Teste, Robert Graham Cl Cur.