

**Prince William County Court May 6<sup>th</sup> 1811**  
**To George Wm. Smith, Lieutenant Governor of Virginia**  
**Box #1, Folder 5, Accession # 41324**

**Virginia Governors Executive Papers – George William Smith**

It appearing to the Court by an inquisition taken before John Brown gentleman one of the Commonwealths justices of the Peace for Prince William County as well by evidence & heard by the Court on the examination of Marmaduke C. Leigh that Negro Edmund lately belonging to the heirs of Edward Carter deceased hath been lately murdered by one Joseph Steel under circumstances of peculiar and aggravated barbarity, that the said Steel hath fled from justice and notwithstanding every effort to arrest him he hath not been taken, but is believed to be still lying hid somewhere in the State. Therefore on the motion of the Attorney for the Commonwealth it is ordered that the above facts be certified to the Lieutenant Governor & Council of this Commonwealth in order that measures may be by them adopted to bring the said Steele to Justice.

Teste,  
John Williams Cl Cur  
Dumfries, Va.

**Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia - A Proclamation**  
**Court of Prince William proclamation against Joseph Steel**  
**Box #1, Folder 6, Accession # 41324, 11 May 1811**

**Virginia Governors Executive Papers – George William Smith**

By the Lieutenant Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia

A Proclamation

Whereas it has been certified to the Executive by the Court of Prince William that by “An Inquisition taken before John Brown, one of the Commonwealth Justices of the Peace for said County, as well as by evidence heard by the Court on the examination of Marmaduke C. Leigh that a Negro Edmund, lately belonging to the heirs of Edward Carter deceased hath been lately murdered by one Joseph Steel under circumstances of peculiar and aggravated barbarity, that the said Steel hath fled from justice and notwithstanding every effort to arrest him he hath not been taken, but is believed to be still lying hid somewhere in the State.” I have therefore thought fit with the advice of the Council of State, to issue this Proclamation, hereby offering a reward of One Hundred Dollars, to any person or persons, who shall apprehend and convey to the Jail of the said County of Prince William, the said Joseph Steel: And I do moreover enjoy all officers, Civil and Military, and exhort the good people of the Commonwealth to use their best endeavors to apprehend and convey to the Jail aforesaid, the said Joseph Steel, that he may be dealt with as the Law directs.

Given under my hand as Lieutenant  
Governor with the seal of the  
Commonwealth annexed, at Richmond,  
This 11<sup>th</sup> day of May 1811  
Geo. Wm. Smith

**Buckland, Prince William County, Va. July 3<sup>rd</sup> 1811**  
**Box #2, Folder 4, Accession # 41324, 11 May 1811**  
**Virginia Governors Executive Papers – George William Smith**  
**From Capt. Hampton of a troop of cavalry, Prince William County**

Sir,

I beg the privilege of introducing the following gentlemen to your notice as officers, to fill the vacancies which have taken place in the Troop of Cavalry, which I have the honor of commanding, in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment. & 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Militia; owing to the removal of Larkin N. Sanders 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut. William P. Neale cornet, out of the county. Robert Brown Jun. 1<sup>st</sup> lieutenant, Bernard Hooe Jun. 1<sup>st</sup> lieut. And Lewis Blackwell cornet. Those gentlemen were selected by the troops, and having a personal acquaintance with all of them, have no hesitation in saying. They possess my confidence, are qualified, and will discharge their duty with promptness and fidelity. Being anxious for those gentlemen to be commissioned immediately, in the cause of my making this procedure. I am Sir.

Very respectfully your most obedient servant  
John Hampton

**Dumfries, Va., April 24<sup>th</sup> 1820**  
**John Linton letter – 36 Regt. Militia**  
**Box #1, Folder 6, Accession # 41324**  
**Virginia Governors Executive Papers – George William Smith**  
**Letter from Jno Linton, Col. Com. 36<sup>th</sup> Regt, Prince William Militia**

Prince William County  
April 24<sup>th</sup> 1820

To His Excellency  
The Governor of Virginia  
Richmond  
Sir,

Since my appointment as full boss of the two Regiments that have been consolidated in this County. I found that there was a number of vacancies as to the Officers in both Regiments, Occasioned by death, resignation & removal, as soon as I qualified to my commission I informed the County Court of the circumstance & they made an order summoning the Magistrates of the County to their last November Court at which time, all the vacancies that had occurred were filed so far as a respectable County Court could fill them, by making recommendations to the Executive of the best character that could be selected in the County which recommendation the Clerk of the Court informed me was sent on to Richmond soon after the residing of the Court, but from some cause which I am unacquainted with no commissions have yet been sent to the Officers for the want of which the Regiment as well as the Publick in case of a sudden call for men would be seriously embarrassed not having at this time more than half the number of officers that the Regiment is entitled to, & many of the companies have only one commissioned officers , & one company is entirely without officers or non commissioned officers and the men in that company district not enrolled at all, of course a true return cannot be made this spring as the law directs of the real strength of the Regiment. I have lately received from the Brigadier orders to summon the officers of the Regiment to a central point in the county for the purpose of being trained by the Brigade Inspector, but from the smallness of the present numbers, and the absence that always happens, owing to unavoidable circumstances that the number meeting the Brigade Inspector will be so small as to deaden all Military Pride and undulation among the few that meet and in a great measure, defeats the intention of the law, but at the same time incurs all the expense of pay allowed the Brigade Inspector.

From the moment I received my commission I have done everything in my power to get the Regiment completely officered but not having succeeded. I conceive a since of duty impels me to address this letter to Your Excellency & request the attention of the Executive to the subject and do hope that they will take such steps as they may in their wisdom deem proper.

With very great respect

I am your Excellency's Obedient Servant

John Linton bat com  
of 36<sup>th</sup> Regt. Prince William Militia.

(Answered 6 May 1820)

**Buckland, Prince William County Va. 3<sup>rd</sup> July 1811**  
**Box #2, Folder 4, Accession # 41324**  
**Virginia Governors Executive Papers – George William Smith**

I beg the privilege of introducing the following Gentlemen to your notice as officers, to fill the vacancies which have taken place in the Troop of Cavalry, which I have the honor of commanding, in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Regiment. & 2<sup>nd</sup> Division Militia owing to the removal of Larkin N. Sanders 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut. & William P. Neale cornet out of the county. Robert Brown Jun. 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant, Bernard Hooe Jun. 2<sup>nd</sup> Lieutenant, and Lewis Blackwell cornet. Those gentlemen was selected by the Troop, and having a personal acquaintance with all of them, have no hesitation in saying they possess my confidence, are qualified, will discharge their duty with promptness and fidelity. Being anxious for those Gentlemen to be commissioned immediately in the cause of my making this procedure.

I am Sir your most obedient servant.  
John Hampton