

**Brentsville, Va. April 3<sup>rd</sup> 1827**  
**Governors Executive Papers – William Branch Giles**  
**Accession #42310, Box 1, Folder 5**  
William B. Giles Esquire, Governor of Virginia, Richmond

Sir:

Having been informed by Mr. Jno. Williams of this place that he is about to make application to the Executive for the office of Notary Public for this county which has become vacated by the resignation of Mordecai B. Sinclair Esq. the hitherto incumbent, it gives me pleasure to say of Mr. Williams that he is a gentleman whose purity of character, exemplary moral, and correct habits would guarantee fidelity in the discharge of the duties of any office which he might be appointed to fill; and that several years service as deputy clerk in the Clerk's Office of this county has given him an acquaintance with practical law and legal transactions, which, with his legal information derived from "the books", will I'm sure amply qualify him to fill the office of Notary Public with requisite ability.

With great respect  
Geo. W. Macrae

**Brentsville, Va., May 23<sup>rd</sup> 1827**  
**Governors Executive Papers – William Branch Giles**  
**Accession #42310, Box 1, Folder 7**  
**Commonwealth of Virginia vs Cambridge alias Hawley (Halley sometimes written)**

Commonwealth of Virginia against John Cambridge alias John Hawley, Virginia: Pleas before the Hon: Judge of the Superior Court of Law for Prince William County at the Court House of said County the twenty second day of May one thousand eight hundred and twenty seven.

Be it remembered that at the same term; to wit; on the 14<sup>th</sup> day of May 1827 Stephen French, foreman, Francis M. Lewis, Moses Cockrell, William M. Lewis, Robert Hamilton, George E. Green, Anderson B. Carter, Benjamin Johnson, Simon Luttrell, Christopher E. Cushing, Joseph R. Lynn, Landon Carter Jr., Walter King, Peyton Mills, Seymour Lynn, Joseph E. Lynn, Thomas Fortune and John S. Trone were sworn a Grand Jury of inquest for the body of the said County and having received their charge withdrew and after sometime returned into Court and presented an Indictment against John Cambridge alias John Hawley "a true bill" which Indictment is in these words "Commonwealth of Virginia, Prince William County, to wit; Third Judicial Circuit. The Jurors of the Commonwealth of Virginia of and for the body of Prince William County upon their oaths do present that John Cambridge alias John Hawley a Freeman of Colour late of the County aforesaid labourer on the sixteenth day of March in the year one thousand eight hundred and twenty seven about the hours of twelve o'clock in the night of the same day with force and arms at the County aforesaid the dwelling house of one Theron W. Newman in the said dwelling then and there being then and there feloniously and burglariously to steal and carry away and then and there with force and arms Eight pieces of Bacon of the value of ten dollars of the goods and chattels of the said Theron W. Newman in the dwelling house then and there being found then and there feloniously and burglariously to steal and carry away against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth of Virginia and the form of the Act of the General Assembly of Virginia in such case made and provided. And the jurors aforesaid upon their oaths aforesaid do further present that the said John Cambridge alias John Hawley a free man of colour late of the county aforesaid labourer on the sixteenth day of March in the same year aforesaid about the hour of one o'clock in the night of the same day with force and arms in the County aforesaid the meat house of one Theron W. Newman the same being within the cartilage of the dwelling house and being parcel of the dwelling house of the said Theron W. Newman there situate feloniously and burglariously did break and enter with intent the goods and chattels of the said Theron W. Newman in the said meat house within the cartilage of the said dwelling house and being parcel of the dwelling house then and there feloniously and burglariously to steal take and carry away and then and there with force and arms ten pieces of Bacon of the value of twelve dollars of the goods and chattels of the said Theron W. Newman in the same meat house within the cartilage of the said dwelling house then and there being found, then and there feloniously and burglariously did steal, take and carry away against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth of Virginia and against the form of the Act of the General assembly of Virginia in such case made and provided.

And the Jury aforesaid upon their oath aforesaid do further present that the said John Cambridge alias John Hawley late of the County aforesaid labourer on the night of the sixteenth day of March in the year eighteen hundred and twenty seven in the county aforesaid with force and arms in the meat house of one Theron W. Newman feloniously did steal take and carry away nine pieces of bacon of the value of ten dollars the same nine pieces of

Bacon at the time of Committing the felony aforesaid being the property of the said Theron W. Newman against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth of Virginia and against the act of the Assembly of Virginia in such case made and provided.

Theron W. Newman sworn in Court to give evidence on this Indictment – John Gibson attorney for the Commonwealth for the Superior Court of Law for Prince William County – M. B. Sinclair clerk.

And thereupon the said John Cambridge was led to the bar in Custody of the Keeper of the Public Jail and thereof arraigned and pleaded not guilty to the Indictment and for his trial put himself upon the County; whereupon came a jury to wit; John Lee Sen., Benjamin Pridmore, Redman Foster, James Florance, Rut Johnson, William H. Dogan, John Dogan, William P. Cundiff, James B. Ewell, John D. Lee, William Brawner and Richard Davis Jr. who being elected tried and sworn the truth of and upon the premises to speak upon their oath do say that the said John Cambridge alias John Hawley is guilty of burglary in manner and form as in the Indictment against him is alleged and that he shall receive Corporal punishment by the infliction of twenty stripes on his bare back well laid on. And thereupon he is remanded to Jail.

And now here this day, to wit; on the aforesaid 22<sup>nd</sup> day of May 1827 the said John Cambridge, alias John Halley was again led to the bar in custody of the keeper of the public jail and it being demanded of him if anything for himself he had or knew to say why the Court should now proceed to pronounce judgment against him according to law he saith that he hath nothing but what he has before said. Therefore it is considered by the Court that the said John Cambridge, alias John Halley do receive on his bare back at the public whipping post twenty lashes to be well laid on, this day between two and four o'clock, and further that he be sold as a slave and banished without the limits of the United States, and that in the mean time he be remanded to Jail there to abide the punishment by stripes to which he has been adjudged, and the order of the Executive in further execution of the sentence.

Teste M. B. Sinclair clerk

**Brentsville, Va. September 10<sup>th</sup> 1827**  
**Governors Executive Papers – William Branch Giles**  
**Accession #42310, Box 2, Folder 7**

William B. Giles Esquire, Governor of Virginia, Richmond

Prince William County Court, August 6<sup>th</sup> 1827, Ordered that the magistrates of this County be summoned to appear here on the first day of the next court to recommend proper persons to be commissioned as magistrates to supply vacancies that have occurred in the commission of the peace in this County,

Teste P. D. Dawe Cl. Cur.

Sheriffs return “Executed on Jesse Ewell, Simon Luttrell, James Gwatkin, John Fox, Thomas Chapman, Thomas Nelson Jr. and a copy left at the house of John Fitzhugh.

James H. Reid D.S. for Charles Ming”

“Executed on Cleary, Foster, Jackson, Gilbert, Smith

Mathias Cole D.S. for Charles Ming”

“Executed on Charles Hunton, Charles S. Carter, Griffin Stith, Stuart G. Thornton, Jno Hutchison, Thomas B. Hamilton.

P. Norvill D.S. for Charles Ming”

“Executed on Redmon Foster, James B. T. Thornton, Robert Hamilton, & John Hooe.

James Fewell D.S. for Charles Ming”

Endorsed “I acknowledge the service of the within R. Foote, L. G. Alexander.

Prince William County Court, September 3<sup>rd</sup> 1827

Ordered that the following Gentlemen be recommended to the Executive as proper persons to be commissioned as magistrates for this county Vizt: Benjamin Johnson in the room of Thomas R. Hampton who refuses to qualify, Richard H. Philips in the room of Francis H. Dunnington who died without qualifying and James B. Ewell in the room of Richard B. Tyler who refuses to qualify.

Teste Jno Williams D.C.

**Brentsville, Va., November 13<sup>th</sup> 1827**  
**Governors Executive Papers – William Branch Giles**  
**Accession #42310, Box 3, Folder 1**

To Governor of Virginia, Clerk of Executive Council, Richmond, Va.

At a Court of Quarterly Session held for Prince William County on November 5<sup>th</sup> 1827. Present were Jesse Ewell, Michael Cleary, Richard Foote, Charles S. Carter & Thomas B. Hamilton, gentlemen justices.

Ordered that Charles Ming, William Smith & John Hooe Jr. be nominated to the Executive as proper persons, either of whom may be commissioned as Sheriff of this County.

Teste P. D. Dawe C.C.

**Dumfries Va., December 8<sup>th</sup> 1827**  
**Governors Executive Papers – William Branch Giles**  
**Accession #42310, Box 3, Folder 1**

Park Gate, near Brentsville  
December 8, 1827

To His Excellency Wm. B. Giles

Sir:

I had the favour to receive your letter of the 26<sup>th</sup> of October & 3<sup>rd</sup> of November last. I was last seventh proceeding in the executive of the commission assigned me by the Executive when I was arrested by your letter of the said ulto I have however ascertained that a satisfactory title cannot be at present obtained for the land originally selected as a site for the Arsenal; and no proceedings have as yet been taken, or even promised to perfect the title. So much of the Land for the other site recommended by Judge Green & myself as belonged to Lee's heirs, has been lately sold under a decree of the Superior Court of Chancery for the Fredericksburg District, & has been bought by a Gentlemen, who it is understood, will convey it to the Commonwealth for the purpose mentioned at the maximum price fixed by the Executive. The sale has been affected under the provision of the Act concerning Guardians, & 1<sup>st</sup> Rev. Code, 409-10, and I am informed, upon good authority, that all the proceedings have been regular. I shall, however, obtain from the Chancery office a copy of the Record in the first, & examine it myself. This Land & Lee's heirs embrace only a part of the site recommended; and the other part, which is very important to the defence, & convenience of the establishment, belongs to Mr. Wm. Horner of Warrenton, who will not take less than 100 dollars per acre for it. This part contains from 4 to 6 acres. It lies between Lee's land & the Turnpike Road & forms the northern Rope of the hill chosen for the site of the Arsenal. This with so much of Lee's land as I think should belong to the establishment, will probably embrace about fifteen acres. Hereto enlarge the boundaries to the extent to include a spring at the foot of the hill, which supplies good water, & will be convenient in the erection of the Buildings; and any surplus which may be hereafter ascertained can be sold by the Commonwealth for much more than it will cost her. The important object to be attained by the purchase of so extensive a surface will be the repulsion to a proper distance of tippling houses & other places of corrupt resort, and the complete separation, when necessary of the soldiers from the Citizens. Besides, it would afford space for the operation of industry & for exercises with a view to health & efficiency. Large gardens & extensive walks, elegantly embellished, might be formed without any expense; and I need hardly add that they would evidently contribute to the health & comfort of the Guard as well as to its efficiency.

As Mr. Horner will not sell at your maximum & with a view to clear all difficulty or doubt on the care to be given to respectfully suggest the expediting of recommending to the General Assembly the passage of an Act authorizing the condemnation, in the usual mode, of so much land as may be required; with a profit, however, in order to meet the contingency & excessive verbration, that the Executive might then take it, or not, in his discretion. I am authorized, indeed to say that the law need not be any objection to the creation of the arsenal at either of the sites recommended; further the Citizens of Warrenton would make up any difference between the sum which the owners demand & that which the Executive would allow, but I presume it will not be considered compatible with the dignity or honour of a great Commonwealth to haggle for a few acres, or to impose a public charge upon a few individuals.

I am Sir with great respect your obedient servant  
J. Macrae

**Dumfries, Va. December 30<sup>th</sup> 1827**  
**Governors Executive Papers – William Branch Giles**  
**Accession #42310, Box 3, Folder 5**  
**To W. H. Richardson Esq. C.C., Richmond**

Sir,

As I am not a subscriber to the "Enquirer, I did not see till yesterday your advertisement of the large Map of Virginia. I was in Philadelphia last summer when this map was sec'd by The Philadelphia Society there. I applied to the Enquirer for a copy but he had none for sale. I fear my application is now too late – but if you could procure a copy, and inform me you have laid it by for me, I will immediately transmit you the \$20 for it – And set the favour of my friend Captain Macrae when he attends the Anti - Jackson convention next month to bring it up with him – or it might be sent by Captain Jenkins in his return back to Alexandria, - Relying on your goodness to address this trouble.

I remain respectfully yours  
John Spence

**Brentsville, Va., March 13<sup>th</sup> 1828**  
**Governors Executive Papers – William Branch Giles**  
**Accession #42310, Box 4, Folder 1**  
To William B. Giles Esq., Governor of Virginia, Richmond

Prince William County Court, February 4<sup>th</sup> 1828. Ordered that the Sheriff summon the Justices of this County to attend on the first day of next court for the purpose of making a recommendation of other persons to be appointed and commissioned justices of the said County to supply vacancies which have occurred therein.

Teste P. D. Dawe Cl. Cur.

Sheriff's Returns "Executed on Jno Hutchison, Jesse Ewell, Thomas B. Hamilton, S. G. Thornton, G. Stith, C. S. Carter.

P. Norvill D.S. for Chas. Ming

"Executed on John Hooe Jr., R. Foote, Robert Hamilton, Lawrence G. Alexander, R. Foster.  
James Fewell D.S. for Charles Ming

"Executed on Cleary and Foster – Jno W. Williams D.S. for Chas. Ming"

"Executed on Jackson, Smith, Gilbert & Philips – Mathias Cole D.S. for Charles Ming"

"Executed on Jno Fitzhugh, John Fox, Thomas Nelson Jr. and James Gwatkin.

James H. Reid D. S. for Charles Ming

At a Court of Quarterly Sessions held for Prince William County the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of March 1828. Present at this time Jesse Ewell, Griffin Stith, Michael Cleary, Richard Foote, John Hutchison, Lawrence G. Alexander, Thomas Nelson Jr., Redmon Foster, Joseph R. Gilbert, Charles S. Carter, Thomas B. Hamilton, Benjamin Johnson, Richard H. Philips and James B. Ewell, gentlemen justices.

Ordered that the following Gentlemen be recommended to the Executive as proper persons to be added to the Commission of the Peace to supply vacancies which have occurred in this county Vizt: James W. F. Macrae in the room of Simon Luttrell removed, William A. Harrison in the room of Thomas Chapman deceased, and Howson Hooe in the room of Charles Hunton removed.

Teste P. D. Dawe Cl. Cur.

**Brentsville, Va., June 2<sup>nd</sup> 1828**  
**Governors Executive Papers – William Branch Giles**  
**Accession #42310, Box 5, Folder 3**

Prince William County Court, June 2<sup>nd</sup> 1828, Present, Jesse Ewell, Richard Foote, John Fitzhugh, John Hutchison, Charles S. Carter, and Thomas B. Hamilton, gentlemen justices.

Ordered that the magistrates of this County be summoned to the first day of August Court next, to recommend to the Executive proper persons to be commissioned as magistrates to supply vacancies which have occurred in the commission of the peace for this County.

Teste P. D. Dawe Cl. Cur.

Sheriffs returns "Executed on Wm. Smith, Thomas Nelson Jr., George W. Jackson, Michael Cleary, James Foster, James Gwatkin, John Fox, Jno Fitzhugh, Jos. R. Gilbert, & R. H. Philips.

James H. Reid D.S. for Chas. Ming

Executed on John Hutchison, Jesse Ewell, Charles S. Carter, Thomas B. Hamilton, Griffin Stith, Stewart G. Thornton.  
P. Norvill D.S. for Chas. Ewell

Executed on R. Foote, L. G. Alexander, Jas. B. T. Thornton, R. Foster, John Hooe, Benjamin Johnson, R. Hamilton, Jas B. Ewell.

James Fewell D.S. for Charles Ming

Prince William County Court, August 4<sup>th</sup> 1828

Present, Jesse Ewell, Griffin Stith, Michael Cleary, Robert Hamilton, James Foster, John Hutchison, Thomas Nelson Jr., Redmon Foster, Joseph R. Gilbert, Benjamin Johnson, & James B. Ewell, gentlemen justices.

Ordered that the following gentlemen be recommended to the Executive as proper persons to be commissioned as Magistrates in this county to supply vacancies which have occurred in the Commission of the Peace Viz: James W. F. Macrae in the room of Simon Luttrell removed, William Cleary in the room of Richard H. Philips deceased, George G. Tyler in the room of Charles Hunton removed and William A. Harrison in the room of Thomas Chapman deceased.

Teste P. D. Dawe Cl. Cur.

A list of Justices in Prince William County, John Fox, Charles Ming now Sheriff, William Smith, John Hooe, Jesse Ewell, Griffin Stith, Michael Cleary, George W. Jackson, Robert Hamilton, Richard Foote, James Gwatkin, James Foster, John Hutchison, Lawrence G. Alexander, Thomas Nelson Jr., Redmon Foster, Joseph R. Gilbert, Charles S. Carter, Stuart G. Thornton, James B. T. Thornton, John Fitzhugh, Thomas B. Hamilton, Benjamin Johnson and James B. Ewell.

Teste P. D. Dawe Cl. Cur.

**Brentsville, Va., November 3<sup>rd</sup> 1828**  
**Governors Executive Papers – William Branch Giles**  
**Accession #42310, Box 5, Folder 9**

To Governor of Virginia, Clerk of Executive Council, Richmond, Va.

Prince William County Court, November 3<sup>rd</sup> 1828. Ordered that William Smith, John Hooe Jr. and Jesse Ewell be nominated to the Executive as proper persons either of whom may be commissioned as Sheriff of this County.

Teste P. D. Dawe C.C.

**Brentsville, Va. February 24<sup>th</sup> 1829**  
**Governors Executive Papers – William Branch Giles**  
**Accession #42310, Box 6, Folder 6**  
William B. Giles Esquire, Governor of Virginia, Richmond

Dear Sir:

At a Court held for the County of Prince William on the 3<sup>rd</sup> day of November 1828, the subjoined order was made which was transmitted to the Executive and William Smith was commissioned as Sheriff of said County, who gave bonds in due time awarding to law; since which time, the said Smith hath departed this life. And as it is desirable that a successor to the present Sheriff whose term expires the first week in March next should be appointed as early as possible. I have thought it expedient to make you this communication.

Very Respectfully

Your Obedient Servant

P. D. Dawe clerk

Prince William County

Prince William County Court, November 3<sup>rd</sup> 1828

Ordered that William Smith, John Hooe Jr. and Jesse Ewell be nominated to the Executive as proper persons, either of whom may be commissioned as Sheriff of this County.

Teste P. D. Dawe Cl. Cur.

**Brentsville, Va. September 8<sup>th</sup> 1827**  
**Governors Executive Papers – William Branch Giles**  
**Accession #42310, Box 7, Folder 7**  
William B. Giles Esq., Governor of Virginia, Richmond

Brentsville, Prince William County, Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup> 1829

Sir,

Your communication of the 18<sup>th</sup> last month covering an order of Council on the subject of distributing arms to Volunteer Companies of Infantry, was only received a few days since owing to my absence from home, which circumstances will account for the delay in answering the same – There is but one Regiment in this County, and but one Volunteer Company of Infantry attached to that Regiment – Whether the company would be willing to secure arms subject to the condition referred to in your communication. I have not been able to ascertain since the receipt of your letter before alluded to but will lose no time in endeavoring to get that information through the Captain of the Light Infantry Company attached to the 36<sup>th</sup> Regiment and when obtained will communicate the result without delay – The strength of that Company in May last was seventy eight, 3 officers and 75 privates. No arms of any description in their hands.

Very respectfully your obedient servant

John Gibson Jr.

Col. Commandant

36<sup>th</sup> Regiment Virginia Militia

**Brentsville, Va., November 2<sup>nd</sup> 1829**  
**Governors Executive Papers – William Branch Giles**  
**Accession #42310, Box 7, Folder 10**

Ordered that John Hooe Jr., Jesse Ewell and Michael Cleary be nominated to the Executive as proper persons either of whom may be commissioned as Sheriff of the County.

Teste P. D. Dawe

**Brentsville, Va. February 24<sup>th</sup> 1830**  
**Governors Executive Papers – William Branch Giles**  
**Accession #42310, Box 8, Folder 6**  
William B. Giles Esq., Governor of Virginia, Richmond

Sir:

In conformity to an Act of Assembly, entitled “An Act to reduce into one, all Acts and parts of Acts relating to the “Appointment and duties of Sheriffs” passed January 11, 1819.

I do certify that John Hooe Jr. who was appointed sheriff of Prince William County, by commission bearing date the 10<sup>th</sup> December 1829, has failed to give bond and security as required by the 3<sup>rd</sup> section of that act – It is expected that he will qualify at our next March Court.

I remain respectfully  
Your Obedient Servant  
P. D. Dawe Cl. Cur.

**Brentsville, Va., March 18<sup>th</sup> 1830**  
**Governors Executive Papers – William Branch Giles**  
**Accession #42310, Box 8, Folder 17**  
To the Governor of Virginia, Richmond

Prince William County Court, March 1<sup>st</sup> 1830. The Court doth recommend to the Executive, James H. Reid & Benjamin Johnson as fit and proper persons to be commissioned to execute the office of Coroner within our County.

Teste P. D. Dawe