

Inquisition on the body of Joseph Young
Deed Book 5, Page 32

Inquisition indented taken at the house of John Early in the County aforesaid, the fourth day of September in the year of our Lord 1804 before me Stephen Smith, one of the coroners of the Commonwealth for the County afores'd upon the view of the body of Joseph Young late of the said County, then and then lying dead, and upon the oaths of Lewis Turnbull, John Pate, Barnet Payne, Jacob Becker, Bowker Richeson, James Greer, William Greer, John Coleman, William McCommack, George Simmons, William Basham, John Ellison, Patrick Hix, James Molloy, Conrade Betz, Joseph Nafe, Michael Crook, Stephen Sink, Michael Crawl, Jesse Preston, Charles Lumsden, William Chitwood, Joseph Moore and Thomas Wright, good and lawful men of this County aforesaid, who being sworn and charged to enquire on the part of the said Commonwealth, when, where and how, and after what manner the said Joseph Young came to his death, do say upon their oath that on the first day of the present month, he the said Joseph Young, came to his death by accidentally falling out of the house of the aforesaid John Early, when in a state of intoxication, and fractured his Skull, which was the occasion of his death. In witness whereof as well the aforesaid Coroner, as the Jurors aforesaid have to this Inquisition put their Seals, on the day and year aforesaid, and at the place aforesaid.

Ste. Smith Cor {seal}

{Every juror also signed and sealed this document }

At a Court held for Franklin County at the Courthouse the third day of December 1804
This Inquisition of the body of Joseph Young deceased, was returned by the Coroner, and ordered to be recorded.

Teste
James Callaway CFC

Inquisition on the body of Mingo, a negro man slave
Deed Book 5, Page 396

Inquisition indented taken at Rocky Mount in the County aforesaid the twenty third day of August 1807 and in the xxxii year of the Commonwealth before me Stephen Smith one of the coroners of the Commonwealth for the county aforesaid upon the view of the body of Mingo a negro man Slave, the property of a certain Miss Sydnor of the County of Halifax then and then lying dead and upon the oaths of Thomas Hale, Samuel Taylor, William Campbell, Joseph Hale, John Sample, Evan Gillaspy, Noah Brammer, John Brammer, Hugh Neal, John Lavender, William Gadd, Mordecai Mosley, George Beheler, George Menefee, Josiah Rodgers, John Doughton, Thomas Hill and William Curtin, good and lawful men of the County aforesaid, who being Sworn and charged to enquire on the part of the said Commonwealth, when, where, how and after which manner the said Negro man Slave (Mingo) came to his death, do say upon their oath, that the said Negro man Slave (Mingo) on the night of the Twenty second day of this present month (August) in the year aforesaid, in the County aforesaid, to wit, at Rocky Mount was found dead, that he had no marks of Violence appearing on his body and died by the

Visitation of God, in a natural way, and not otherwise, in Witness whereof as well the aforesaid Coroner as the Jurors aforesaid have to this inquisition put their seals this xxiii day of August and in the year aforesaid and at the place aforesaid.

Ste Smith {LS}

{Every juror also signed and sealed this document}

At a Court held for Franklin County September 7th 1807
This Inquest was returned and ordered to be recorded.

Inquisition on John Vier's Slave Jane
Deed Book 5, Page 417-418

Inquisition indented taken at the dwelling house of John Vier Jr in the County aforesaid the sixth day of July in the year of our Lord 1807 before me Stephen Smith one of the coroners of the Commonwealth for the County aforesaid upon the view of the body of Jane a negro woman Slave the property of the said John Vier Jr. then and there lying dead and upon the oaths of Samuel Saunders, Martin Sailor, John Walker, Isaac Richards, Benjamin Swiney, Samuel Higgs, Moses Jinney, John Shively, Aaron Jinney, John Napier, James Radford, James Kennedy, Reuben Short, Bryce Edwards, William Kennady, David Vier, John Noles, Joshua Noles, John Slaughter and William Whorley good & Lawful men of the County aforesaid who being sworn and charged in enquire on the part of the Commonwealth, when, where, how and after what manner the said Negro Slave came by her death, do say upon their oath that a certain John Vier Jr Labourer, late of the Parish of Patrick in the County aforesaid not having God before his eyes, but being moved and seduced by the instigation of the devil on the first day of July in the year aforesaid with force & arms at the dwelling house aforesaid in the County aforesaid in and upon the aforesaid Negro Jane and there then, being in the peace of God and of the said Commonwealth feloniously voluntarily and of his malice afore thought made an assault, and that the aforesaid Negro Jane, then and there with certain Sticks of no value which he the said John Vier Jr then and there held in his right hand the aforesaid Negro Jane, in and upon her head and breast side & Back then and there violently feloniously *Volentarily* and of his malice aforethought Struck and beat the said Negro Jane on her head and breast side & Back aforesaid of which said mortal bruises the aforesaid Negro Jane died on the 3d day thereafter and so the said John Vier Jr then and there feloniously Killed and murdered the said Negro Jane, against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth. In Witness whereof the coroner & Jurors have put their seals the day and year aforesaid.

Ste Smith {Seal}

{Every juror also signed and sealed this document}

At a Court held for Franklin County September 7th 1807
This Inquest was Returned and ordered to be Recorded
Teste James Callaway C.F.C.

Inquisition on the body of Joel Farris
Deed Book 5, Page 561-562

Inquisition indented taken at the dwelling house of William Brizendine in the County aforesaid the 28th day of January 1809 before me Ste Smith one of the Commonwealth's coroners for the County aforesaid upon the view of the body of Joel Farris late of said County then and there lying dead and upon the oaths of Saml Cochchram, John Law, Jr., Saml Dillion, William Dillion, Meredith Dillion, John Smith, Peter Housman, Isaac Brisendine, Will *Brizendine*, Leroy Brisendine, Matthew Farmer & William Farmer, good and lawful men of the County aforesaid, who being Sworn & charged to enquire on the part of the said Commonwealth, when, where, how and after what manner the said Joel Farris came to his death, do say upon their oaths say that some person unknown to them, Not having God before his eyes but being moved and seduced by the instigation of the devil on the 21st day of this present month and in the year aforesaid with force and arms in the County aforesaid in and upon the body of Joel Farris aforesaid, then and there being in the peace of God, and of the Commonwealth, feloniously, voluntarily & of his malice aforethought, made an assault in and upon the neck of the aforesaid Joel Farris, the violence of *w ch broak* the neck bone of said Joel Farris, also a blow struck on the back of said Joel Farris near his right side of which mortal strokes the aforesaid Joel Farris instantly died, and so the said person unknown, the said Joel Farris then & there feloniously killed & murdered against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth

Ste Smith {Seal}

{Every juror also signed and sealed this document}

At a Court held for Franklin County February 6th 1809
This Inquest was Returned and ordered to be Recorded
Teste James Callaway C.F.C.

Inquisition on Mary Ann Jones' child
Deed Book 5, Pages 639-640

Inquisition indented taken at the dwelling house of Richard Mullins' in the County aforesaid county the 12th day of September 1808 before me Stephen Smith one of he Coroners of the Commonwealth for the County aforesaid upon the view of the body of a female child, said to be born of the body of Maryann Jones, Alien Maryann Roberts, then & there lying dead and upon the oaths of Thomas Hale, William Campbell, Luke Standifer, John Lavender, William W. Gadd, David Robertson, Samuel McCarrell, Mordecai Mosley, John Hunter, James Young, William Standley, William Mathews, Booker Mullins, Thomas Stanley, Robert Guilliams, George Guilliams, Richard Guilliams, Micajah Stone, William Stone, Noah Doss, Joseph Hale, Samuel Philpott good and Lawful men of the county aforesaid, who being sworn & charged to enquire on part of the Commonwealth, when, where, how and after what manner the female child aforesaid came to its death, do they say upon their oath, that Maryann Jones alias Mary ann Roberts spinster, Amelia Barnes, spinster, & Keziah Mullins, spinster, not having God before their eyes, but **being moved Seduced by the instigation of the Devil**, on the 5th day of this present month in the year aforesaid, in and upon the aforesaid Infant Child, then and there being in the peace of God & of the said Commonwealth, feloniously, voluntarily and of their malice

aforethought made an assault, and that the infant aforesaid and then and there, did strange and of which strangling the infant aforesaid instantly died, and so the said Mary ann Jones alias Maryann Roberts, Amelia Barns and Keziah Mullins, then & there feloniously killed & murdered the infant child aforesaid, against the peace & dignity of the CommonWealth, In witness whereof as well the said Coroner as the Jurors aforesaid, have to this inquisition put their seals, on the day and place aforesaid.

Ste Smith {seal}

{Every juror also signed and sealed this document }

Inquisition on the body of Daniel Perdue
Deed Book 6, Pages 71-72

Inquisition indented taken at the *parrish* of Patrick and in the County aforesaid the 3d day of July 1810, before me Stephen Smith, one of the coroners of the CommonWealth for the county aforesaid upon a view of the body of Daniel Perdue late of the parish and county aforesaid, then and there lying dead and upon the oaths of Samuel Cochram, John Asher, Amos Ellison, James Greer, Charles Lumsden, Dudley Lumsden, John M. Holland, Peter Holland, Robert Childress, John Law, Thomas Dudley, Nathan Johnson, Jesse Dillion, Branch Osborn, Benjamin Wray, Samuel Dillion, David Price, William Brizendine, Thomas Hamblin, John G. *Newbil*, James Mckinzie, Valentine Oyler, Stephen Sink and Henry Koon, good and lawful men of the County aforesaid, who being sworn and charged to enquire on the part of the CommonWealth, where, when, how and after what manner the said Daniel Perdue not having God before his eyes but being moved and seduced by the instigation of the devil, at the parish and county aforesaid in and upon himself then and there being in the peace of God and of the said CommonWealth feloniously and of his *malace fore thought* made an assault and that the said Daniel Perdue then and there with a certain Rifle gun, of about the value of Fifteen dollars laden with gun Powder and leaden ball which the said Daniel Perdue then and there held in his hand, and then feloniously voluntarily and of his malice forethought did fire off and discharged the same into the head of him the said Daniel Perdue, giving unto himself the said Daniel Perdue one mortal wound of *wich* said Mortal wound the said Daniel Perdue the parish and county aforesaid languished and languishing, lived about two hours and then died in the parish and County aforesaid, on the second day of this month July, and so the Jurors aforesaid upon their oath aforesaid say that the said Daniel Perdue, then and there in manner and form aforesaid, as a felon of himself feloniously voluntarily and of his malice aforethought himself killed and murdered against the peace and dignity of the CommonWealth. In Witness whereof as well the aforesaid coroner as the Jurors aforesaid have to this inquisition put their seals on the day and year aforesaid.

Ste. Smith Cor. {Seal}

{Every juror also signed and sealed this document }

At a Court held for Franklin County October 1st 1810

This Inquest on the body of Daniel Perdue was returned and Ordered to be Recorded

Teste James Callaway C.F.C.

Inquisition on the body of Julius a negro boy slave
Deed Book 6, Page 148-149

Inquisition indented taken near the dwelling house of William Robertson in the County aforesaid the xvii day of may in this year of our Lord 1811 before me Stephen Smith one of the coroners of the Commonwealth for the County aforesaid, upon the view of the body of Julius a negro boy slave the property of William Robertson then and there lying dead and upon the oath of Shelton Taylor, Amos Eleson, Jasper Franklin, James Greer, Leonard Hutts, Charles Hopkins, William Clarkson, Valentine Wysong, Valentine Oyler Sr., Valentine Oyler, Jr., Joseph Wysong, Ezekiel Dowdy, Henry Wysong, William Smith, Robert Childress, James Amos and George Mills, good and lawful men of the County aforesaid who being sworn and charged to enquire on the part of the Commonwealth, when, where, how and after what manner, the said negro boy Julius came to his death, that he not having the fear of God before his eyes, being seduced and moved by the instigation of the devil at the County aforesaid in a certain woods, standing and being the negro boy aforesaid being then and there alone with a certain Black cord of the value of one cent which he then and there had and held in his hands, and one end thereof then and there put about his neck and the other end thereof had about a bough a certain dogwood tree himself then and there with the cord aforesaid, voluntarily and feloniously and of his malice aforethought hanged, and suffocated, and so the Jurors aforesaid upon their oaths, aforesaid say that the said negro boy then and there in manner and form aforesaid as a felon of himself Feloniously voluntarily and of his malice aforethought himself killed strangled and murdered against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth. In Witness whereof as well the aforesaid coroner as the Jurors aforesaid have to this inquisition put their seals on the day & year aforesaid.

Stephen Smith cor
{Every juror also signed and sealed this document }

At a Court held for Franklin County June 3rd 1811
This Inquest on the body of Julius a Slave was returned and ordered to be recorded
Teste James Callaway CFC

Inquest on the body of George Martin's Slave
Deed Book 6, Pages 347-348

Inquisition indented taken at the house of the late John Martin Dec'd in the County aforesaid the 25th day of November 1812 before me Stephen Smith, one of the Coroners of the Commonwealth for the County aforesaid upon the view of the body of George a Negro man Slave belonging to the estate of the late Mr. John Martin deceased, then and there lying dead, and upon the oaths of James Vier, Elisha Cooper, John Harger, Edward Richards, Jehu Hale, Jacob Fishburn, Melchor Waggoner, Walter Dent, Elijah Warren, John Woods, Shadrach Richards, and John Kidd. Good and lawful men of the County aforesaid, who being Sworn and charged to enquire, on the part of the said Commonwealth, when, where, how and after what manner the said Negro man George came to his death, as say upon their oaths that a certain Negro man Slave belonging to a Certain Nathan Mason of the County aforesaid, named George not having God before his eyes, but being moved and Seduced by the instigation of the Devil on the 19th day of

the present month in the year afores'd with force and arms, at the house of Francis Hill in the County aforesaid in and upon the aforesaid Negro George, then and there being in the peace of God and of the said Commonwealth, feloniously, voluntarily and of his malice forethought made an assault and that the said George the property of Nathan Mason aforesaid, with a certain knife made of Iron & Steel of the value of nine pence, which he the said George, then and there held in his right hand, the aforesaid George the property of the Estate of the late Mr. John Martin Dec'd near the *navil* of him the said George, then and there with the Knife, aforesaid, violently, feloniously, voluntarily and of his malice forethought, struck and pierced and gave to the said George belonging to the estate of said John Martin Dec'd then and there with the Knife aforesaid near the navel of him the said George One mortal wound of the breadth of half an Inch and of the *debth* of two Inches, of which said mortal wound the aforesaid George then and there anguishing lived from the said 19th day of the month aforesaid to the 23d day of said month of which said mortal wound he the said George died being feloniously killed & murdered by the said George the property of said Nathan against the peace & Dignity of the Commonwealth. In Witness whereof as well the said Coroner as the Jurors aforesaid have to this Inquisition put their seals, the day & year aforesaid

Ste Smith {Seal}
{Every juror also signed and sealed this document }

At a Court held for Franklin County December 7th 1812
This Inquest on the body of George a Negro man Slave belonging to the Estate of John Martin Deceased was returned & Ordered to be Recorded
Teste James Callaway CFC

Inquisition on the body of Jacob Michael
Deed Book 7, Page 56

Inquisition indented, taken at *Joseh* Alticks House in the County aforesaid the 29th day of Dec.r 1813 before us Moses Greer, Sr. one of the coroners of the Commonwealth for this County aforesaid upon the View of the body of Jacob *Micle* late of the County aforesaid then & there lying dead and upon the oaths of Wm Chitwood, Devall Crowl, Jos. Altick, Michael Crook, John Alticks, Henry Showalter, Geo. Teal, John *Showater*, Sr., Jacob Bousman, Jacob Beckner, David Gossett, Conrad Betz, good & lawful men of the County aforesaid who being sworn & charged to enquire on the Part of Commonwealth when where, how and after what manner the said Jacob Michel came to his death do say upon their oaths that the said Jacob Michael on the night of the 27th Instant in the year aforesaid and in the County aforesaid to wit in the Waggon road near Michael Crooks was found dead that he had no marks of violence appearing on his body and died by Intoxication & cold and not otherwise. In Witness whereof we have herewith set our hands this day & date above.

{Every juror also signed and sealed this document }

At a Court held for Franklin County, January 3d 1814

This Inquest on the Body of Jacob Michael was returned and ordered to be recorded.
Teste, Caleb Tate, C.F.C.

Inquest on the body of William Spencer
Deed Book 8, Page 448

Franklin County to wit

An inquisition indented taken at the late dwelling house of William Spencer of said County the 4th day of July in the year 1819 of the Commonwealth 43rd before me Anthony Street, one of the Coroners of the Commonwealth for the County aforesaid upon the view of the body of William Spencer late of the aforesaid County, then and there lying dead & upon the oaths of Joseph Smith foreman, John Law, Rich'd Robertson, Stephen Dudley, Wyatt Smith, William Wright, Robert Powell, Sr., Robert *Powel*, Jr., Charles C. *Powel*, Stephen English, Charles Allen, *Mire* Hundley, James S. Hale, good and lawful men of County aforesaid who being Sworn and charged to enquire on the part of Said Commonwealth when, where, how and after what manner the said William Spencer came to his death do say upon their oaths that he hanged himself, not having God before his eyes but being seduced & moved by the instigation of the Devil at and in his Corn House to one of {the} Rib poles about 40 or 50 yards from his dwelling House being there alone with a *Gig lines* valued to 50 Cents which he then & there had & held in his hands by information from Mrs Spencer at one end thereof then & there put about his neck & the other end thereof tied around a Rib pole of the Crib himself then & there with the Gig lines aforesaid, Voluntarily & feloniously & of his malice aforethought hanged & suffocated and *sow* the Jurors aforesaid upon their oaths aforesaid say that the said William Spencer then & there in manner & form aforesaid as a *fellon* of himself *felloniously Volunterrily* & of his malice aforethought himself killed, Strangled & murdered against the *piece* and Dignity of the Commonwealth as witness our hands & Seals the day & year first mentioned.

{Every juror also signed and sealed this document }

At a Court held for Franklin County July 5th 1819

This inquest on the body of William Spencer dec'd was returned to Court and ordered to be recorded.

Teste, Caleb Tate, C.F.C.