

Rockingham County to wit  
Great Superior Court of Law and Chancery, for the County of Rockingham

The jurors for the body of the County of Rockingham, on their oath  
present, that William Griggs, a free negro, late of the County of Rockingham  
laboured, not having the fear of God before his eyes, but being moved and  
seduced by the instigation of the Devil, on the 20 day of March, in the  
year 1847, with force and arms, at the County aforesaid, and within  
the jurisdiction of this Court, in and upon one Barbara Stemple a  
married white woman, then and there being, violently and feloniously did  
make an assault, and her the said Barbara Stemple, against the will  
of her the said ~~Barbara~~ <sup>Barbara</sup> Stemple, then and there feloniously did rav-  
ish and carnally know, against the form of the Statute in such case made  
and provided, and against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth.

A true bill

Mark G. Mazy <sup>man</sup> Juror

Commonwealth  
in Indictment for  
Hear.  
William Gage

A True Bill  
A. G. Manzy  
Jurman

Guilty

Wm L. Locke

As the jury find the pris-  
= oner guilty of the felony  
charged in the indictment

William L. Locke

Barbara Hempel, Peter Detunard,  
Mirand Coffman, ~~James Shorty~~, Samuel  
W. Coffman, ~~James Shorty~~ and  
Mathew Stacey. - witness - sworn to  
give evidence to the Grand Jury.  
J. W. Gaultier 1846

1847. May Term the aforesaid tried  
and found guilty. and sentenced to be  
hung on 16. July 1847. See draw  
book No. 2 page

The Commonwealth of Virginia to the Sheriff of Rockingham County  
Greeting: We Command you to Cause to Come Twenty four Good Lawfull  
Men, Free Men, of your Bailiwick, over the age of Twenty one years and  
posseps of a Visible estate Real or personal of the Value of five thousand dollars  
at the least, all of whom reside Remote from the place where the Offence was  
Committed (to wit) a Rape on the body of Barbara Hempley, a White  
Married Woman, of which William Gregg is accused, to appear  
before the Judge of our Circuit Superior Court of Law and Chancery for this  
County on the first day of May Term Next. to Recognize or their Oaths  
whether the aforesaid William Gregg is guilty of the felony  
aforesaid or not; and <sup>they names of the said Freeholders before & of</sup> have them there, this Writ Witness Henry  
Hambill Clerk of our said County, at the Court house the  
15<sup>th</sup> day of April 1847 and in the 7<sup>th</sup> year of the Commonwealth

H. J. Gambill

Council

& Venera

Mr. Gripp

facies

Jacob Giles

John Cook

Jacob B. Nicholas

Henry Brill

Adam C. Bare

Simon Peck

Wm. Perry

John Humate

Hiram H. Kite

David Gilmore

George Saffley

Wm. Leckie

Wm. Beard

Peter Shovatter

Leonard Tubrocker

Joseph Allaffer

Ananias Davidson

Jacob Earman

George Reubush

Newton Allaffer

James Kyle

Joseph Kury

Saml. Whitman

Jno. H. Austin

Specimen

Attest My Hand & Seal this 1st day of June 1844

William Griggs (a free Negro) late of the County of  
Rockingham, who stands convicted of felony, was again led to the  
bar in Custody of the Jailor, of the Court; and thereupon it being  
demanded of him, if any thing for himself, he had or knew  
to say, why the Court here should not now proceed to pronounce  
Sentence against him according to Law, and nothing being offered,  
or alleged, in delay of Sentence; It is considered by the Court that  
the said William Griggs, be hanged by the Neck until he be  
dead, and that execution of this Sentence be made. ~~made~~  
and done, upon him the said William Griggs, by the Sheriff  
of the County of Rockingham on Friday the 16<sup>th</sup> day of July next  
between the hours of ten o'clock in the forenoon, and four  
o'clock in the afternoon of the same day, near the Town of  
Farrisburg; and thereupon the said William Griggs is remanded  
to Jail.

and by the Council made the Court to sit since the  
Desert of the King, and to grant them a Salary but  
motion upon argument of Council was granted by the  
Court. x

Com<sup>o</sup> Council  
W. Gregg & form  
of  
Inquest