Twelfth Judicial Circuit
Rockingham County To wit } In the Circuit Court of said County

The Jurors of the Commonwealth of Virginia in and for the body of the County of Rockingham and now attending the said Court upon their oath present that Samuel Coogle a free negro on the 24 day of July in the year ~~one~~ thousand Eight hundred and fifty five in the said County in and upon one Amy Armentrout a white female over the age of twelve years, To wit of the age of 55 years, violently and feloniously an assault did make and her the said Amy Armentrout then and there, To wit: on the day and year aforesaid at the County aforesaid, feloniously and against the will of the said Amy Armentrout and by force did ravish and carnally did know, he the said Samuel Coogle, then and there being a free negro against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth of Virginia

We the Jury find the Prisoner guilty in manner and form as is alleged in the Indictment & ascertain the term of his imprisonment in the Penitentiary at twelve years

James S Harris

Foreman

James S Harris

Commonwealth
vs
Samuel Cooper
Indictment for
Rape

Verdict
Guilty
Foreman

Virginia: At a Supreme Court of Appeals held at the State Courthouse in the City of Richmond on Monday February 11th 1856.

Samuel Cooogle. plaintiff

against

The Commonwealth. - - - - - - - - - - - - upon a writ of error to

a judgment rendered by the circuit court of Rockingham county, on the twenty sixth day of October 1855, upon an indictment found against the plaintiff in error for Rape, whereby it was considered by the said circuit court that the said plaintiff in error be imprisoned in the Penitentiary of the Commonwealth for the term of twelve years, the period by the jurors in their verdict ascertained.

This day came as well the plaintiff in error by his counsel, as the Attorney General; whereupon the court having maturely considered the transcript of the record of the judgment aforesaid and the arguments of counsel is of opinion, for reasons stated in writing and filed with the record, that there is no error in the said judgment; wherefore it is considered that the same be affirmed.

Which is ordered to be forthwith certified to the said circuit court.

A copy. Teste J. Allen. C.C.

Cooge
vs } Co: judgment
Commonwealth

Rockingham Co:

Comwth of Virginia

1855

Oct. Entg atto to Cogill 10. Entg order 36. Eng Jury 70. Entg one long order 72. Entg four orders 144. One Spa 20. copy 10. Entg thirteen witnesses 3,90. taxing costs 20. Execution 58. copy off Record. 2,00.

Witnesses —	$ 10,30
	25,70
Amt paid Jury —	48,00
" Board Jury —	36,00
Shffs fees —	1,70
Amt to Jailor —	27,60
Attorney —	5,00
	$ 154,30

George

Abram Painter 1
Peter Roller 2
Emanuel Roller 3
Benj. Huffman 4
Emanuel Wise 5
Lunafield Lee 6
Joseph Berry 7
Jno Brown 8
Jas S Harris 9
Silas Skeeter 10
Geo Mauzy 11
Saml Baker 12

J K Hamelange

M. L. Rhodes

Commonwealth
vs } On an Indictment for Rape
Sam. Cogle

After the facts stated in the bill of exceptions taken in the case of the Commonwealth vs. Sam. Cogle on an Indictment for a rape, was made out, the Prisoner by his counsel requested the Court to certify the evidence adduced by the prisoner and make it a part of the proceeding on his trial, stating that the motion for a new trial was made not only on the statement of facts made by the Court, but on the whole evidence adduced on the trial of the cause, admitting that the evidence introduced by the Commonwealth is substantially set forth in the said statement of facts (except the rebutting evidence of the Commonwealth herein after stated) which evidence introduced by the prisoner and the rebutting evidence on the part of the Commonwealth, the Court doth now certify, certifying also that in making said statement of facts, the Court took into consideration the whole evidence adduced both by the Commonwealth and by the prisoner on his behalf - which evidence adduced by the Prisoner and by the Commonwealth as rebutting, is as follows, To wit - . . - . - - -

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Fanny Cole, a witness introduced by the Prisoner — testified that on Friday night the 13th July 1855 she was at home at her Father's house and saw Sam. Coogle between 10 & 11 O'clock passing to the spring with a pitcher in his hand, she said "Is that you Sam"? "Yes Madam"

On Cross Ex. said the moon was shining a little — that she saw Sam. standing on the steps of the Porch door leading into the dwelling house — that she was standing in the door and he was immediately fronting her. She said "Is that you Sam"? & he replied, "Yes madam". She then retired and saw no more of him. Said she heard the clock strike 7, 8 did not hear it strike 9 — did hear it strike 10 — Did not recollect whether she heard it strike 11 or not. thinks she heard it strike 12 and her Father came home directly after that. That it was about 2 hours after her Father came home when she saw Sam & he was dressed as usual. Prisoner's Counsel then asked her at what time she wanted the Jury to understand her as saying she saw Sam. — she said "about 10 O'clock." Com'th's Atty. asked her at what time she desired the Jury to understand her as saying her father came home, she said "about 12 O'ck" then how long after before Sam. came & she said "about 2 hours" said "she was not embarrassed" & that the moon was shining a little. she was evidently embarrassed & very young.

Mrs. Crow. a witness for Prisoner — said she lived on Cole's land near the house. Her husband was taken sick Friday night July 13th 1855 and she went to Mr. Coles for camphor but being afraid of the dog, she went to the cabin in which Malvina lives about yards from P. Coles dwelling house Malvina opened the door for her — she followed Malvina to the door of the room in which she slept and Sam. Coogle raised up on his elbow and asked who that was and his wife, Melvina said "It is Mrs. Crow, she has come for camphor for Mrs. Crow — She saw Sam. Coogle and heard him ask the above question. This was about 12 O'clock at night as the chickens were crowing for midnight. She was up and down all night with her husband and saw

Joe. Coogle another witness for Prisoner - Testified that he was the Prisoners Father - that on Friday the 13th of July 1855 the prisoner obtained his leave to go to Brock's - that he left his Father's house in the evening that he told the prisoner to go either on his way to Brock's (who lives several miles north of Mrs. Armentrout) or on his return to see about a Coal-kiln the witness had stacked up ready to burn some time before on the East side of the Mountain Valley Road and some distance South East of Mrs. Armentrout - That if the prisoner would get some one to burn it, he might have half of it.

David Armentrout, a witness for Commonwealth - testified that a few days after Sam was arrested, the day on which he was examined before the Committing magistrate, the attorney for the Commonwealth told him he had heard James Crow had seen Sam. Coogle at Philip Cole's on the night of the rape and he wished the witness to go out there and find out what Crow would say. Witness and Henry Rodgers went out together - saw Crow & interrogated him as to the time he saw Sam. Crow said he saw him on Friday evening of the 13th July 1855 between sun down and dusk - studied a few moments & said "No, I am wrong I saw him between 8 & 9 o'clock at night" and that he saw him again between day light & sun rise the next morning. Witness said he was sent out for the purpose of entrapping Crow.

Henry Rodgers - a witness for Commonwealth - testified to about the same as David Armentrout

Robert Coy. a witness for Comth. Knew the general character of Mr. & Mrs. Crow for truth & say they would not be believed on oath.

George Carricofe - a witness for Commonwealth - knows nothing against the character of Mrs. Crow but knows Crow's general character for truth & he would not be believed on oath

Wm. D. Bowman - a witness for Comth. says same as Carricofe

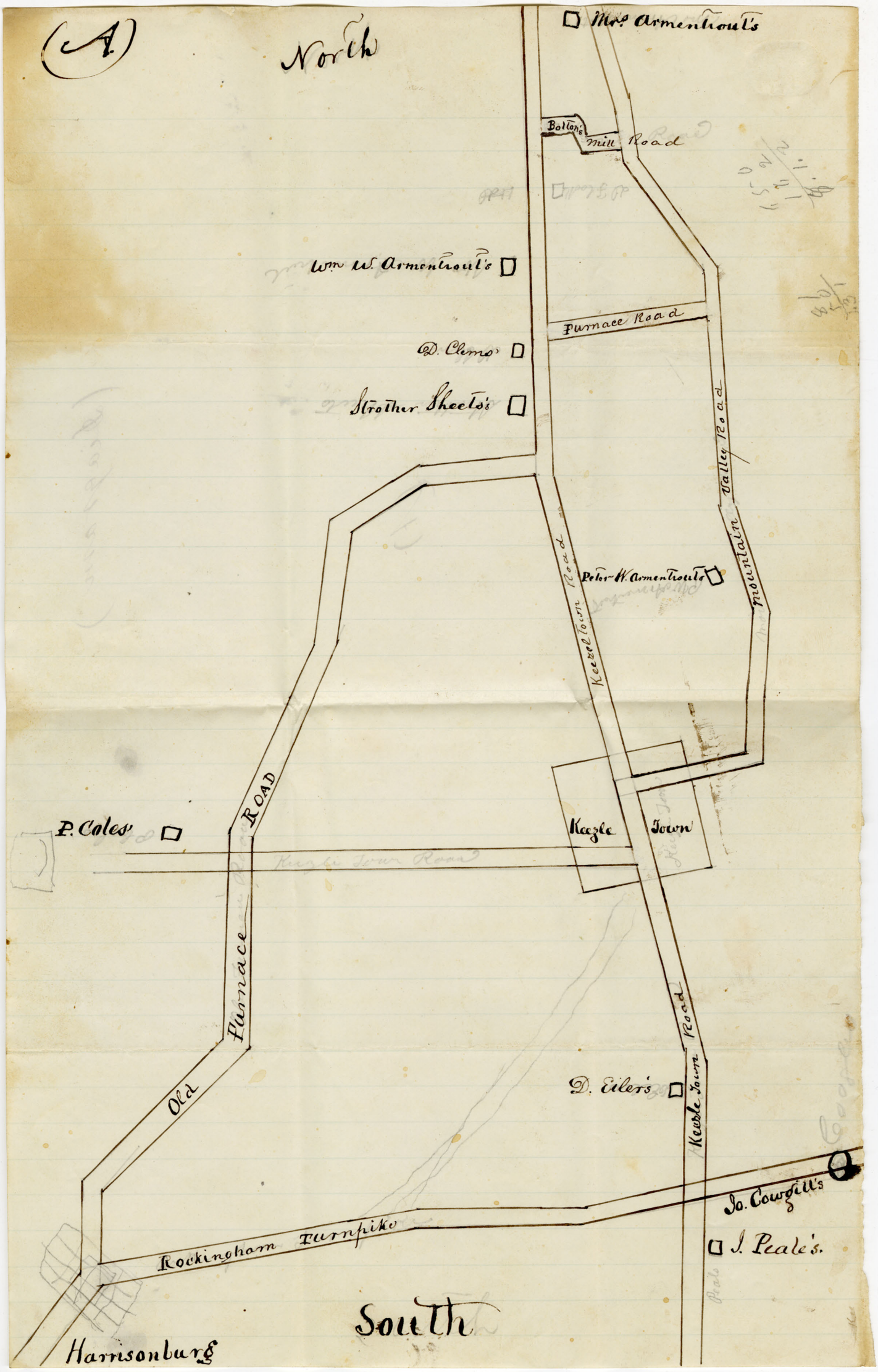
Edward Huffman. a witness for Comth. testified to about the same as to Crow & wife as Carricofe & Bowman. He also testified that he was acquainted with the general character of Joe Coogle for truth & that he would not be believed on oath

Philip Cole a witness for Prisoner - testified that James Crow had been in his employment on his farm for many years and that from his knowledge of his character he would credit him on oath. He also testified that on the night of Friday 13th July 1855 he was at a neighbor's house (Mr. Moore's) and returned home about 9 o'clock that night, that he owned a slave Malinda - the wife of the prisoner - that he had owned her 7 or 8 years and that she was a girl of truth - that in going from Melina's Cabin to the Spring, it was as customary to pass the door of his house as to go any other way.

Whole certificate of evidence as above stated, at the request of the prisoner by his counsel is signed sealed & enrolled

John Kenny Clk

(A)


North
Mrs Armentrout's
Bolton's
Mill Road
Wm W. Armentrout's
Furnace Road
D. Clemo
Strother Sheets's
Valley Road
Mountain
Keezel Town Road
Peter W. Armentrout's
Keezle Town
P. Coles
ROAD
Old Furnace
D. Eiler's
Keezle Town Road
Jo. Cowgill's
J. Peale's
Rockingham Turnpike
South
Harrisonburg

(Diagram)

(1)

Sam. Coogle pass her house she judged about an hour and a half before day, on the morning of the 14th of July 1855 as the chickens were crowing for day. and Sam asked her, how her husband was

James Crow another witness for prisoner, testified that Sam Coogle was arested on Sunday 15th of July 1855 near Philip Coles house - that he James Crow was taken sick on Friday night the 13th July 1855 - and his wife went to Malvina's cabin for camphor and got it - that he was up and down during the night that he saw Sam. passing his house in the direction of Philip Coles about 8 or 9 O'clock on the night of Friday the 13th July 1855 and saw him passing again about an hour before day in the morning of saturday the 14th July 1855.

Upon Cross-Examination he said that David Armentrout and Henry Rogers, came to him a day or two after Sam. was arested and said they had had heard that he saw Sam at Philip Coles on the night of Friday the 13th July 1855. Thinks he told them he saw Sam about 8 or 9 O'clock on Friday night the 13th July 1855 and between daylight and Sun rise on Saturday morning - He thought they were trying to catch him and he tried to get rid of them.

Melvina - another witness for Prisoner - testified that she is the slave of Philip Cole and that she and the prisoner live together as husband and wife - that on the night of friday 13th July 1855 the prisoner came to the cabin in which she ~~slaped~~ a short distance from Philip Coles house - that she went from the house kitchen to the cabin a while after night - she supposes between 9 & 10 o'clock - that shortly after she got to her Cabin, the prisoner came there and staid until about an hour & a half before day next morning and left saying he was going over to see about his Father's Coal-kiln - that awhile after he got to the cabin he took a pitcher and went in his shirt sleeves after water, when he returned he had a piece of bread which witness supposes he got out of the kitchen, which is under the same roof with Cole's dwelling house - The kitchen was open & the prisoner frequently got something to eat there at night after he came. She also said that Mrs. Crow a white woman living not far from her Cabin, came to her cabin between 11 & 12 O'clock she thought on that night for the purpose of getting some camphor for her husband, saying he was sick, that she got up and lit a candle & Mrs. Crow came in & got the camphor

Commonwealth

vs } on an indictment for a rape

Samuel Cogle a free negro

On the trial of this cause it was proved that Mrs ~~Henry~~ Armentrout a widow woman aged about 50 years or more resided by herself, in a house situated in the County of Rockingham near Armentrout's Church, about five miles from Keezletown in said County — On the night of friday the 13th of July 1855 she was asleep alone in her house, about 11 o'clock at night, with all the lights extinguished, when she was awakened by the noise made by some one attempting to enter her room — She immediately arose from her bed & attempted to get to the door — whilst she was thus attempting to reach the door it was violently burst open by a man — She asked what he wanted & he immediately seized her & choked her & gave her to understand in the coarsest language that he desired to have sexual intercourse with her — She remonstrated & resisted to the best of her ability, but he persisted in throwing her on

(2)

floor where he succeeded by violence & against her will in having sexual intercourse with her – The night was dark – There was no moon & it had been raining in the early part of the night & was ~~[illegible]~~ dark – The windows to the house were small & there were blinds or curtains which were drawn & in the language of the witnesses it was "perfectly dark in the house" – When the person entered the house Mrs Arrentrout saw that it was a man though she could not tell whether he was white or black – As he entered she could not see his face or head or the upper part of his person – All she could distinguish was that he was dressed in male attire as he stood between her & the door – The door was left open only for a very brief space of time, as the perpetrator of the offence as soon as he seized her pushed or kicked the door so as partially to close it – In the course of the struggle while the outrage was being perpetrated Mrs A discovered from the contact of her face with that of the offender, that it was smooth

& had but little beard on it – She also during her resistance had her hands in the hair about his head & found it to be rough & bushy like that of a mulatto – It was not happy hair like that of a negro, nor soft & smooth like that of a white man* It seemed to her like that of a person of mixed blood or a mulatto* After he had accomplished his purpose he ran from the house & as he passed along the porch she saw his form – and as he turned at the end of the porch she had a glimpse of his side-face – As he passed he looked dark to Mrs A – His clothing was dark & his face seemed dark also, though the night was too dark for her to tell whether he was a white man or a black man – – She thought his size & general appearance was like that of the prisoner though he stooped as he ran – He had no hat on when the offence was committed & none when he ran from the house – He had on a rough woolen coat – Mrs Armentrout confirmed her belief that the offender was Sam Logle the prisoner – Logle the prisoner is a mullatto aged 21 years, without much beard, & with hair that is straight somewhat long – His appearance was smooth

* and also that from the feeling by her hands, he had on a rough woolen coat

& like that of a person of mixed blood

After the offence had been perpetrated Mrs A. ~~went~~ ran immediately to the house of David Mefrik her nearest neighbour, who lived 60 or 70 yards distant & gave the alarm crying Oh! Lord have mercy on me - Tell what has been done & said it was Sam. Cogle + no [illegible] - The clock struck 11 whilst she was there - Pursuit was made but no traces of the offender could be found - When Mrs A. arrived at Mefriks house & made known the outrage which had been committed on her person she declared she believed that Sam Cogle was the guilty person -

Being requested to state the grounds of her belief she said that she believed he was the guilty person because she had understood he was roving about the neighbourhood "doing badness" & because the offender had but little beard & hair like that of a mulattoe - + and because she knew of no one in the neighbourhood that would treat her so meanly & his general size & appearance corresponded with that of Cogle - It was however proved that the night was so dark that as she went to Mefriks to give the alarm she could not see the path before her - It was

and for these reasons she believed it was Sam Cogle while he was in the house ~~man~~

also proved that on the day after the offence was committed she made complaint before a magistrate & applied for a warrant against Cogle which was refused on the ground that she could not swear certainly that Cogle was the guilty party + and that as he was a young magistrate, she had better go to the magistrate who was more familiar with such things

that she would only swear she believed it was Cogle, but would not swear positively

Afterwards she applied to another magistrate for the warrant & it was issued—

It was further proved that Sam Cogle was the son of Jos: Cogle a dark mulatto or brown skinned free negro, & that his mother was a bright mulatto: Sam had just attained his majority & lived with his father who is a blacksmith & resides near the end of the peaked mountain about 3 miles South East of Keezel-town— A diagram shewing the localities is appended to this statement which was used on the trial to explain to the jury the relevancy of some of the testimony, & was admitted by the counsel on both sides to be sufficiently correct for the purpose indicated— Said diagram is marked (A)

+ when the distances are deemed important they are set down as the relative distances cannot be learned from the diagram—it not being made by actual measurement.

It was proved that Jo Cogle & his son Sam had about 13 months before the rape was

United lived in the neighbourhood of Armentrouts church, but that he had moved from the neighbourhood in June 1854 – Mrs Armentrout knew Sam Cogle by sight – Had frequently seen him pass along the road near her house when he lived in the neighbourhood – But she had not seen him since some time last spring when she saw him at Peter Armentrouts – It was then standing in the yard talking with Armentrout & the Witness was in the house, some distance off looking out of the window – She did not recollect with that exception to have seen him for a year before the offence – before looking at the prisoner in the bar she said that she believed him to be the guilty man tho she could not swear positively to the fact – Her eye-sight was ~~bad~~ about as that of persons of her age – and she was in the habit of wearing spectacles.

It was proved that on the evening of friday the 13th July Sam Cogle was seen passing along the main road leading towards Kegel town near David Eyler's house about an hour before sundown & on the next morning he was seen returning by the same place about sun-rise

Eyles is about 1. miles S.W. of Keegel town.
It was also proved that he was in Keegel
town on friday evening 13th july about half
an hour before sundown, going down the
road in the direction of Mr. Armentrouts, & the next morning between day-
light & sunrise he was seen going through
the town up the road — He was also seen at
about dusk at Stretter Sheets lower down the
Keegletown road on friday evening the 13th of July 1855. still on the road to Mr. A.
— It was proved also that a man
wearing dark clothes and a cap passed Wm Armen-
trouts on friday evening 13th July 1855
but it was after dusk, & there was
not light enough to enable the wit-
ness to distinguish who he was — nor
whether he was white or black —

The distance from Dr. Cogles to Peeles is miles
From Peeles to Eyles is
From Eyles to Keegletown is
From Keegletown to Sheets is
From Sheets to Coles is
From Sheets to W. Armentrouts is
From Sheets to Mary Armentrouts is
From Mary Armentrouts to P. Armentrouts is
From P. Armentrouts to Keegletown is
From Keegletown to Brooks is

It was proved that Philip Cole lived near the old

was seen through of the morning that he was
towards the house of the first complains

Furnace Road as laid down on said diagram — that the distance from Shutter Sheets to Mrs. Armintrouts is about 3 1/2 miles the distance from Philip Coles to Mrs. Armintrouts — been is between 6 & 7 miles around the Road — that the distance from Wm Armintrouts to Mrs Armintrouts is about two ~~miles~~ miles — the distance from Mrs. Armintrouts to Keeltown is about five miles from Coles to Keeltown — all of which places are laid down on said diagram — that Brooks lives a mile from the Keeltown Road — several miles below William Armintrouts. — and that Mrs. Armintrout lives on the mountain valley Road. as laid down on said diagram. — It was also proved that the prisoner if seen at William Armintrouts — had passed below the Public Road leading from the Keeltown Road to the Mountain valley Road — on which Mrs. Armintrout lives — but he was going the nearest way to Mrs. Armintrouts if he left the Road — & went through the fields.

It was also proved ~~by Peter Armintrout~~ that ~~he~~ ~~saw~~ Sam Cogle was seen stopping by Peter Armintrouts house, up the mountain valley Road on foot on Saturday morning the 14th of July between daylight & Sunrise — that his house is about three-quarters of a mile from & about 4 miles from Keeltown — that the said Peter Armintrouts Brother came up the mountain valley Road on foot to his house — that he saw no other person but Sam Cogle that the same morning about two hours after Sam Cogle had passed — & told him what had happened to Mrs. Armintrout — that he and his Brother started down the Mountain valley Road in the direction of Mrs. Armintrouts — and about a half a mile from his house — he saw in

Mrs Armintrouts

the mountain Laeley Road the tracks of two persons on foot - one the track of his Brother - the other the track of a middle-sized man - which tracks he as he advanced along the road - he continued to see until as the day advanced - and persons began to pass the Road - he occasionally did not see - but occasionally did not see a track until within 1/4 of a mile of Mrs. Armentrouts house - which tracks he believed to be the same tracks, he saw a middle-sized man first within 1/2 of a mile of his house - tho' he did not notice the tracks particularly or measure them - as he did not know that Sam Cogle was suspected of the offence at that time - the road for the first 1/2 of a mile from Peter Armentrouts was gravelly - and dry - and it was so occasionally along the Road to Mrs. Armentrouts - & the last 1/4 of a mile was also dry and gravelly.

It was also proved that there was a negro-woman at Phelps Coles named Melinda - the slave of Phelps Cole - with whom Sam cohabited as his wife - she occupied a Cabin some distance from Cole's house. to which she retired after the work of the day was done and when she slept - and Sam Cogle was in the habit of visiting her frequently at night. - On the night of Friday the 13th of July 1855, Phelps Cole was from home at a neighbours (Mr. Moore's) & returned home about nine o'clock. - It was also proved that the prisoner Sam Cogle was at Phelps Coles on the night of Friday the 13th of July 1855 - the night on which the Rape was committed - at some time between the hours of 9 o'clock on that night - and ~~the~~ an hour and a half before day of the next morning

It was also proved that Sam Cogle was arrested on Sunday the 15th of July 1855 - on the public Road near Phelps Coles - and there was found

of any attempt on the part of the prisoner to escape either before or at the time of the arrest.

The case being all the facts proven on the trial of the cause – the Jury after hearing the argument of Counsel retired from the Bar to consider of their verdict – and after some time returned into the Court with the following verdict – "We the Jury find the prisoner guilty in manner and form as is alleged in the Indictment – and ascertain the term of his imprisonment in the Penitentiary at twelve years."

And afterwards the prisoner by his Counsel moved the Court to set aside the verdict and direct a new trial on the ground that the verdict was contrary to the evidence – which motion the Court overruled upon the ground that it did not believe the verdict was contrary to the evidence – to which opinion of the Court refusing to set aside the verdict of the Jury – and grant him a new trial – the prisoner by his Counsel excepts – and prays that the due statements of facts may be spread upon the Record – and that this his Bill of Exceptions may be signed sealed and enrolled – and made a part of the Record – which is accordingly done.

John Kenney (Seal)

In addition to the facts certified in the foregoing Bill of Exceptions – as proved on the trial of the cause of the Commonwealth vs Samuel Cooper upon an Indictment for Rape – on the motion of the Counsel for the prisoner the court doth further certify – that upon the said trial the following evidence was given to the Jury – and that the motion for a new trial made by the prisoner was based not only upon

the facts certified in the foregoing Bill of Exceptions but upon the evidence of the witnesses introduced & examined ~~on the part of the prisoner~~ — and that the Court in considering the motion for a new trial — & making out the statement of facts took into consideration the entire evidence both on the part of the Commonwealth and the Prisoner —

Comth
vs } Bill of Exceptions —
Sam Coogle

1855. Indicted in Circuit Court. Oct. Term. Jury rendered Guilty and sentenced to the Penitentiary for twelve years, and supersedeas granted by the Court of Appeals — and Judgt. of Circuit Court affirmed,

$134. 30 costs in Cir. Ct.

The Commonwealth of Virginia

To the Sheriff of Rockingham County, Greeting,

You are hereby commanded to summon, to appear before the Judge of the Circuit Court of Rockingham County, at the Court house thereof, on the first day of the October Term next, Twenty four persons, being freeholders of your County, and qualified in other respects to serve as Jurors, residing remote from the place where the offence is charged to have been committed, of which Sam Cowgill is accused, viz; "in this" that he did on the 13th day of July 1853, in said County, in and upon Amey Armentrout, a female white person, then and there being, violently and feloniously did make an assault, and her the said Amey Armentrout, then and there violently against her will, feloniously did ravish and carnally know, he the said Sam Cowgill being a free negro," to recognize on their oaths, whether the said Sam Cowgill be guilty of the offence aforesaid or not, And have then there this writ, Witness Littleton W. Gambill, clerk of the County Court of Rockingham, at the Court house thereof, the 5th day of September 1853, and in the 80th year of the Commonwealth,

L. W. Gambill clk

Comth }
vs } venire facias
Cowgill }

Geo. W. Lutz Jr. — 1
Peter Roller — 2
H. E. Crumes — 3
Elias Crawn — 4
Saml. Baker — 5
Wm S. Baughler — 6
G. W. Mauzy — 7
N. W. Shuler — 8
C. F. Hausbrger — 9
Lewis Lee — 10
Em. Roller 11

21 - 3.

Oct. Term 1853

Executed on the following by L. N. Hausberger D.S.

= Peter Roller 1
N. E. Crumes 2
Elias Crawn 3
Saml Baker 4
Wm S. Baughler 5
G. W. Mauzy 6
N. W. Shuler 7
C. F. Hausberger 8
Lewis Lee 9
Emanuel Roller 10

Exd on the following by Giles A. Lewis D.S.

= Jacob P. Shufer 1
Wm N. Berden 2
Jos. Berry 3
Alex. Kiger 4
Geo. Rice 5
Wm Lackie 6
Amos Scott 7
Hardmary 8
Silas Wilson 9
Jas. S. Harris 10.
Jno F. Crawn 11
Benj. Huffman 12
Edward Wise 13
Abm Painter 14

Rockingham County To wit:—

To The Clerk of The County Court of Said County.

I, O C. Sterling a Justice of the Said County, do hereby certify, That I have ~~this day~~ my warrant, This day committed Sam Cowgill a free negro, to the jail of This County, That he may be examined before The Justices of the County of Rockingham at a Special Session of the County Court, by them to be held (for the examination of Sam Cowgill) at the County Courthouse of the Said County on the 24th day of July 1855, for a felony by him committed, in this That he did on the 13th day of July 1855 in Said County in and upon Amy Armentrout, a female white person, then and there being, violently & feloniously did make an assault, and her the Said Amy Armentrout, then and there violently against her will, feloniously did ravish and carnally know, he the Said Sam Cowgill being a free negro. Given under my hand This 19th day of July 1855

O. C. Sterling J. P.

Rockingham County to Wit:—

Be it remembered, that on this 19th day of July 1855 Amey Armentrout, Peter Armentrout, Slothier Sheets, Chas. Myers, Jacob Flook, David Messick, Wm. D. Bowman, David Eiler & Jacob R. Braithwaite of the said County came personally before me O. C. Sterling a Justice of the said County, and acknowledged themselves to be indebted to the Commonwealth of Virginia, the sum of Fifty dollars each, to be made and levied of their goods and chattels, lands and tenements, if they the said Amey Armentrout, Peter Armentrout, Slothier Sheets, Chas. Myers, Jacob Flook, David Messick, Wm. D. Bowman, David Eiler & Jacob R. Braithwaite, shall make default in the performance of the condition underwritten.

The condition of the above recognizance is such, that if the above bound Amey Armentrout, Peter Armentrout, Slothier Sheets, Chas. Myers, Jacob Flook, David Messick, Wm. D. Bowman, David Eiler & Jacob R. Braithwaite shall personally appear before the Justices of the County of Rockingham at a special session of the County Court, by them to be held (for the examination of Sam Cowgill) at the County Courthouse of the said County, on the 24th day of July 1855, to give evidence in behalf of the Commonwealth against Sam Cowgill, who stands charged with felony, in this that he did on the 13th day of July 1855 in said County in and upon Amey Armentrout, a female white person, then and there being, violently and feloniously did make an assault, and her the said Amey Armentrout, then and there violently against her will, feloniously did ravish and carnally know—he the said Sam Cowgill being a free negro, and shall not thence depart without the leave of the said Court, then the above obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

Taken and acknowledged before me, the day and year first above written.

O. C. Sterling J. P.

Connect
vs } Papers
Cowgill

1855 July Lady

65

Rec'd

Rockingham County to wit.

Amey Armentrout upon oath complains that on the 15th day of July 1855 in the County of Rockingham, Sam. Cowgill a free negro, in and upon Amey Armentrout a female white person, then and there violently, violently and feloniously did make an assault, and her the said Amey Armentrout, then and there, violently and against her will, feloniously did ravish and carnally know, he the said Sam Cowgill being a free negro, and she the said Amey Armentrout therefore prays that the said Sam. Cowgill, free negro may be apprehended and held to answer the said complaint, and dealt with in relation thereto as the law may require. Dated this 15th day of July 1855.

Amey her X mark Armentrout

Rockingham County to wit

15th day of July 1855 the said Amey Armentrout made oath to the truth of the foregoing complaint before me

O. C. Sterling J. P.

Rockingham County to wit.

To all or any one of the Constables of said County

Whereas Amey Armentrout of said County, has this day made complaint and information on oath before me O. C. Sterling a Justice of the said County, that Sam. Cowgill, a free negro on the 15th day of July 1855 in said County in and upon Amey Armentrout a female white person, then and there being, violently and feloniously did make an assault, and her the said Amey Armentrout, then and there, violently and against her will, feloniously did ravish and carnally know - he the said Sam. Cowgill being a free negro. These are therefore, to command you, in the name of the Commonwealth of Virginia, forthwith to apprehend the said Sam Cowgill, a free negro, and

being him before me or some other Justice of the Said County, to answer the said complaint, and to be further dealt with according to law. Given under my hand and seal, this 15th day of July 1855

O. C. Sterling J. P. (Seal)

Executed July 15th

Executed July 15/55

Robert Bowman

D C M

To

The Clerk of the Circuit Court

(Rockingham) of Rockingham County

Comth
vs
Sites } Rule

Executed

Oct. 1833