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State of Virginia;  
Rockingham County, to wit,  
In the County Court of the said  
County.

The jurors of the Commonwealth of Virginia in and for the body of the County of Rockingham and now attending the County Court of the said County of Rockingham upon their oath present, that Amanda Jane Pollard on the day of June 1875, with force and arms, in the said County of Rockingham, in and upon a certain male child, then and there born of the body of the said Amanda Jane Pollard, whose name is to the jurors aforesaid unknown, feloniously, wilfully and of her malice aforethought did make an assault, and the jurors aforesaid upon their oath aforesaid, do further present that it was the duty of the said Amanda Jane Pollard then and there to provide proper and sufficient clothes, covering and protection for the body of the



said <sup>male</sup> child, the said male child  
being then and there unable  
to provide for and take care  
of himself; and that the said  
Amanda Jane Pollard, then and  
there, contrary to her duty  
in that behalf, feloniously,  
wilfully and of her malice  
aforethought <sup>with both her hands</sup> did put and place  
the said male child in a certain  
hole and excavation <sup>in the ground</sup> in a certain  
field and open place there,  
and then and there feloniously,  
wilfully and of her malice  
aforethought did desert and  
leave the said male child  
there, exposed to the inclem-  
ency of the weather, without suf-  
ficient clothes, covering, shelter  
and protection for the body  
of the said <sup>male</sup> child; by means  
of which said several premises  
the said male child became  
and was mortally sick, weak  
and disordered in his body;  
of which said mortal sick-  
ness, weakness <sup>and</sup> disorder afore-  
said the said male child



on and from the said day  
of June 1875 until the day  
of the same month, in the  
said County, did languish and  
languishing did live, and then  
and there, to wit, on the <sup>said</sup> day  
of June 1875, in the County  
aforesaid did die, and so the  
jurors aforesaid on their oath  
aforesaid do say, that the  
said Amanda Jane Pollard  
the said male child, in man-  
ner and form aforesaid, fel-  
loniously, wilfully and of her  
malice aforethought, did kill  
and murder, against the  
peace and dignity of the Com-  
monwealth of Virginia.

And the jurors aforesaid, upon their oath aforesaid  
do further present, that the  
said Amanda Jane Pollard,  
afterwards, to wit, on the day  
and year first aforesaid, in  
the County aforesaid being  
trip with a certain male child,  
the same male child alone  
and secretly from her body  
did then and there bring



forth alive, and the jurors  
aforesaid, upon their oath  
aforesaid, do further present  
that it then and there be-  
came <sup>and was</sup> the duty of the said  
Isabella Jane Pollard, as the  
mother of the said child to  
fasten, tie and secure the na-  
vel-string of the body of the  
same child, and to provide  
and procure such clothing  
covering and shelter for the  
body of the same child as  
were then and there neces-  
sary and sufficient to pro-  
tect and defend the same  
child from the cold and in-  
clemency of the weather, and  
also to procure for the same  
child medicine and medical  
~~attendance~~ <sup>procure for and give and</sup> and to adminis-  
ter to the same child such  
milk and food as was then  
and there necessary and suf-  
ficient for the support and  
maintenance of said child.

And the jurors aforesaid,  
upon their oath aforesaid,  
do further present that the



said Amanda Jane Pollard,  
not-regarding her duty in  
that-behalf, on the day and  
year first-foresaid, with force  
and arms, in the County afore-  
said, in and upon the same  
male child <sup>not named</sup> ~~as assault~~ did  
~~make~~ in the peace of the  
Commonwealth then and there  
being, feloniously, wilfully and  
of her malice aforethought, did  
make an assault, and that  
the said Amanda Jane Pol-  
lard, the same child into both  
her hands feloniously, wilfully  
and of her malice aforethought,  
did then and there take, and  
that the said Amanda Jane  
Pollard the same child felo-  
niously, wilfully and of her  
malice aforethought, with  
both her hands did then  
and there put and place in  
a certain hole and excavation  
in <sup>the ground</sup> ~~a certain~~ field and open  
place, there situate, and the  
same child in the said hole  
and excavation in the ground  
in the said field, then and



there feloniously wilfully and  
of her malice aforethought, did  
expose and abandon and leave,  
naked and without any  
clothing, covering or shelter  
whatever to protect the body  
of the same child from the  
cold and inclemency of the  
weather, and that the said  
Amanda Jane Pollard did  
then and there feloniously,  
wilfully and of her malice  
aforethought, wholly neglect, re-  
omit, and refuse to tie fasten  
and secure the navel-string  
of the body of the same child,  
and that the said Amanda  
Jane Pollard did then and  
there feloniously, wilfully and of  
her malice aforethought-  
wholly neglect, omit and re-  
fuse to provide and procure  
any clothing, covering, or shel-  
ter whatsoever for the same  
child; and that the said  
Amanda Jane Pollard did  
then and there feloniously  
wilfully and of her malice



aforethought wholly neglect,  
omit and refuse to procure  
for the same child medicine and  
medical attendance and to pro-  
cure for and give and ad-  
minister to the same child  
milk or other food whatso-  
ever, by means of which  
said last-mentioned expo-  
sure, leaving and abandon-  
ment of the same child, and  
also by the omitting and re-  
fusing to tie, fasten and se-  
cure the navel-string of the  
body of the same child as  
aforesaid, and to provide and to  
procure clothing, covering and  
shelter for the body of the  
same child as last-aforesaid  
and to procure medicine and  
medical attendance for the  
same child, and to procure <sup>for and</sup> give  
and administer to the same  
child milk and food as  
last-aforesaid, the same child  
from the time of its birth  
aforesaid on the day and year  
first-aforesaid, until the  
day of the same month



in the County aforesaid, did languish and languishing did live on which said day of June in the year aforesaid, the same child in the County aforesaid of such leaving, abandonment and exposure and of such wilful omission neglect and refusal as in this Count mentioned, did then and there die, And so the jurors aforesaid, upon their oath aforesaid, do say, that the said Amanda Jane Pollard, the same child, in manner and form last aforesaid, feloniously wilfully and of her malice aforethought, did kill and murder, Against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth of Virginia,

And the jurors aforesaid, upon their oath aforesaid, do further present that the said Amanda Jane Pollard, on the day and year aforesaid in the said County of Rockingham



with force and arms, in and  
upon the body of the said  
male child, then and there  
born of the body of the said  
Isabella Jane Pollard,  
whose name is to the jurors  
<sup>aforsaid</sup> unknown, feloniously, wilfully  
and of her malice aforethought  
did make another assault,  
and him the said male child,  
whose name is unknown, in  
some way or manner, and by  
some means, instruments  
and weapons to the jurors  
unknown did, then and there,  
feloniously, wilfully and of her  
malice aforethought, wound,  
beat ~~and~~ injure, strike and  
bruise, of which wounding,  
beating, injuring, striking and  
bruising by the means, in-  
struments, and weapons  
aforsaid to the jurors un-  
known, the said child, whose  
name is to the jurors unknown,  
from the said day of June  
in the year aforsaid did  
languish and languishing did  
live, until the day of the

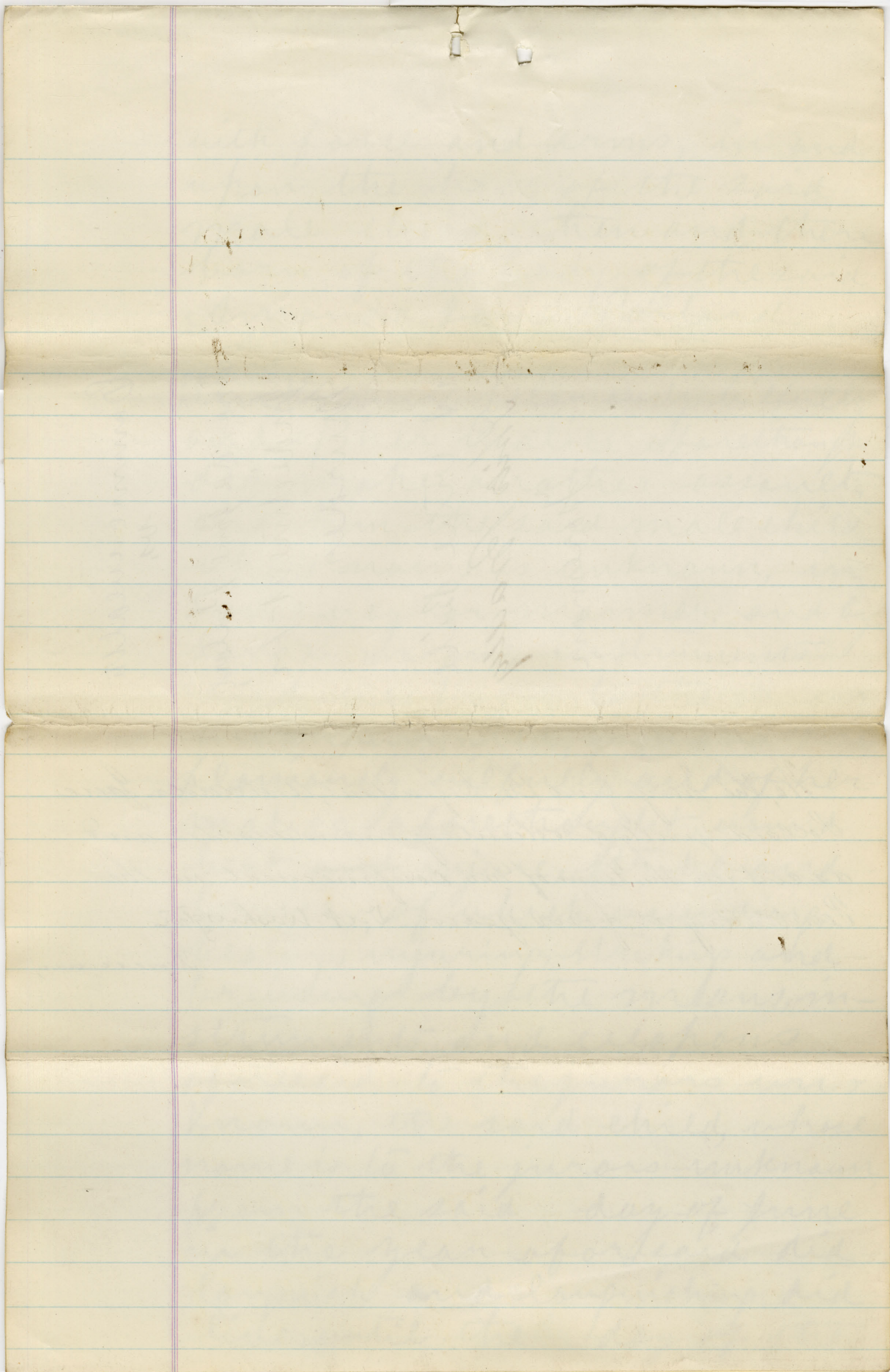


same month, on which day of  
June, in the year aforesaid, ~~in the~~  
same child, whose name is to  
the jurors unknown, in the  
County, aforesaid, of such  
wounding, beating, injuring,  
striking and bruising did  
die, and so the jurors aforesaid,  
upon their oath aforesaid,  
do say that the said  
Manda Jane Pollard, the  
same child, in manner and  
form last aforesaid, feloniously,  
wilfully and of her malice  
aforethought did kill  
and murder against the  
peace and dignity of the  
Commonwealth of Virginia

This Indictment is found  
on the testimony of Geo. J.  
Kisling - J. W. Voff - Wm. Oxill  
Jos. T. Williams, Mary  
Strother Henry Johnson

Witnesses sworn  
in Court and sent before  
the Grand Jury to give evidence,







Commonwealth  
vs,

Amanda Jane Pollard,  
Indictment for  
Murder,

vs True Bill  
Phil Bradley  
Foreman,

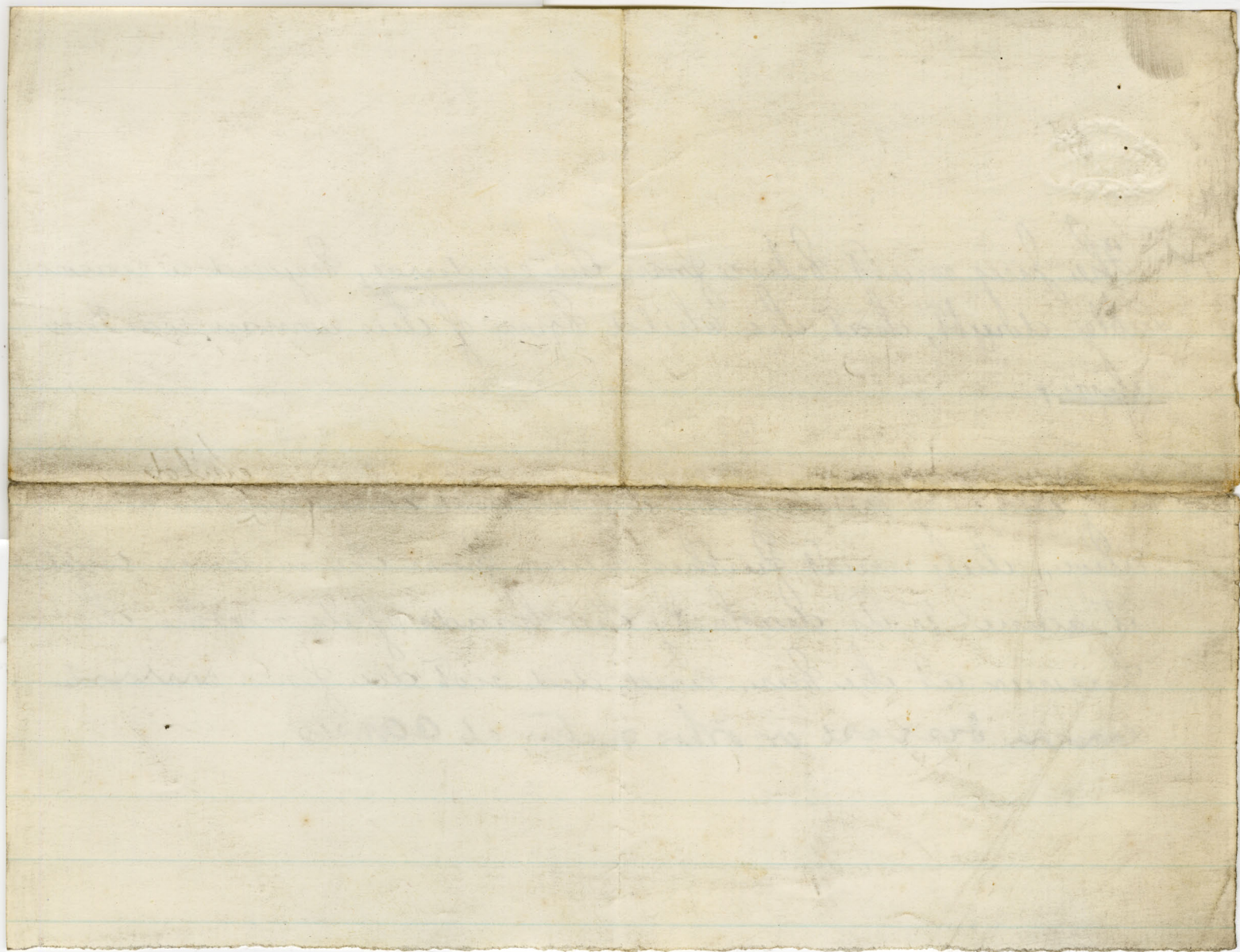
We the Jury find the defendant, Amanda Jane  
Pollard guilty of voluntary manslaughter, and  
as certain the term of her confinement in the  
Penitentiary at four years D.C.P. Washington  
Foreman,




1<sup>st</sup> The jury must believe from the evidence, beyond a reasonable doubt, that the child born of this woman was born alive.

2<sup>nd</sup> If the jury believe from the evidence that the <sup>child</sup> was born alive, they must further believe from the evidence that it came to its death by the hands of its mother the prisoner at the bar, and did not die from ~~natural~~ <sup>natural</sup> causes, disease or other natural causes.







 If the Jury believe from the evidence that the child might have died from strangulation by the navel string, and that it was not in the power of the mother to prevent it, they must find the prisoners not guilty.

— If the Jury believe from the evidence that the child might have died from suffocation by the discharges from the mother, and that the mother could not have prevented it, they must ~~again~~ find the prisoners not guilty.

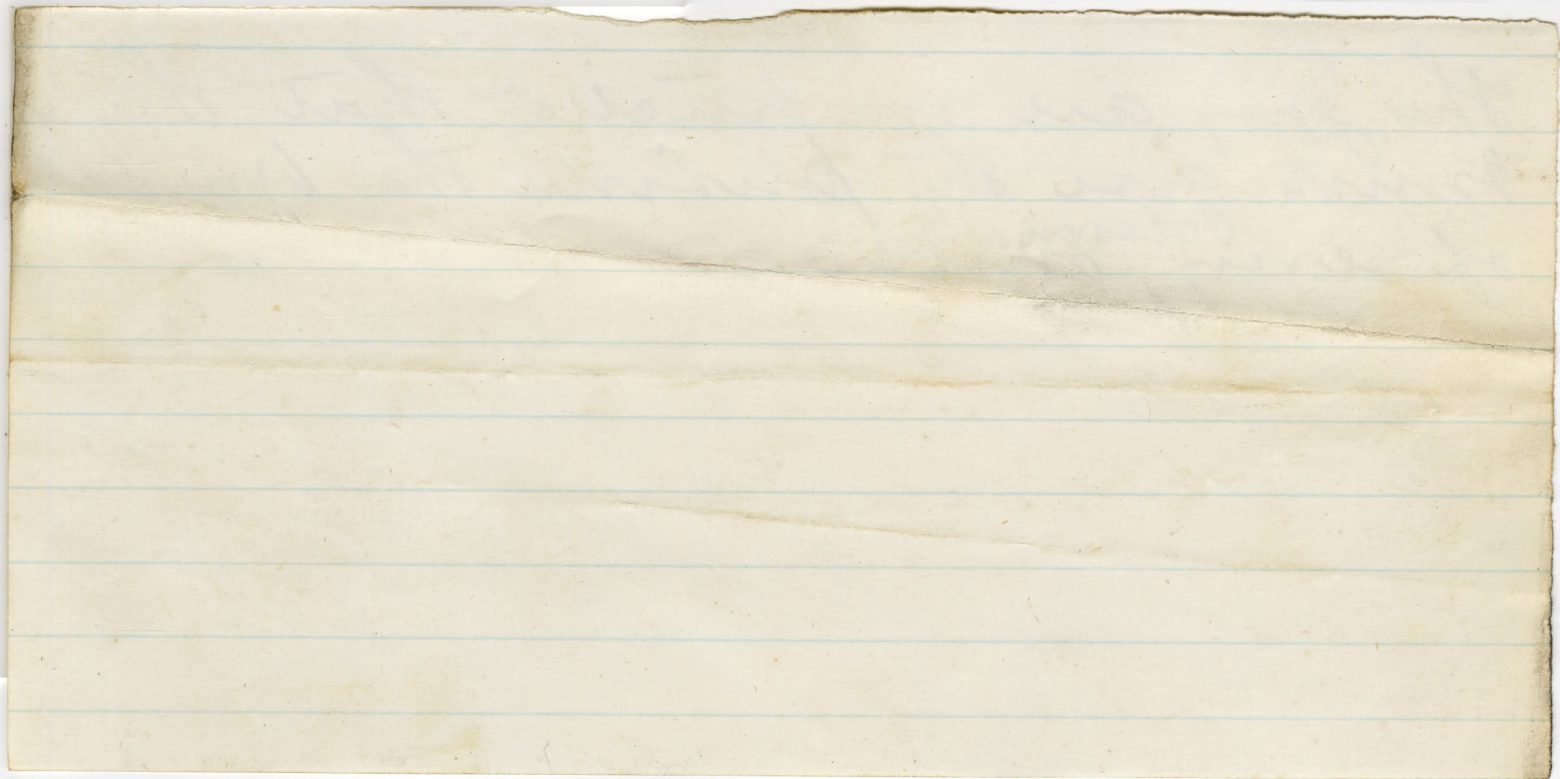






The Jury are instructed that they  
must give the prisoner the benefit  
of every <sup>reasonable</sup> doubt -







THE COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,  
To the Sheriff of Rockingham County,---GREETING:

YOU are hereby commanded to summon

*Mrs. Geo. J. Risling*

to appear before the Judge of the County Court of Rockingham County, at the Court-House, on the  
*5<sup>th</sup>* day of the *August* Court next, being the *20<sup>th</sup>* day of *August*  
1875, to testify and the truth to say on behalf of *The Commonwealth*

in a certain matter of controversy in our said Court, depending and undetermined between

*Commonwealth* Plaintiff,  
and *Amanda Jane Pollard* Defendant.

And this *She* shall in no wise omit under the penalty of £100. And have then and there this  
writ Witness, JOSEPH T. LOGAN, Clerk of our said Court, at the Court-House, the *19<sup>th</sup>* day of  
*August* 1875, and in the 106th year of the Commonwealth.

*J. T. Logan,* Clerk.



Executed August 19<sup>th</sup> 1875.

Wm. H. Hays D.S. for  
D. H. Hays S. H. H.

5<sup>th</sup> day of August 1875

The Commonwealth  
vs 3  
Amanda Jane Pollard



Rockingham County to wit  
Jos. P. Williams Deputee for  
the Town of Harrisonburg

Whereas by an inquisition taken before  
me as Coroner for Rockingham County,  
this twentythird day of June 1895. at  
Harrisonburg, on view of the body of  
a male negro infant then and there  
lying dead of one Amanda Jane Pallard  
stands charged with the ~~wife~~ murder  
of the said infant by Neglect & Exposure.

There are therefore by virtue of my office  
as Coroner to command you in the  
name of the Commonwealth of Virginia  
forthwith to apprehend the said Amanda  
Jane Pallard, and without delay to carry  
her before some one of the Justices of  
the said County that she may be dealt  
with according to law and this is  
your warrant for so doing.

Given under my hand and seal  
this twenty third day of June 1895.

J. P. Williams  
Coroner for  
Rockingham County



Cometh

is

Isabella Jane Pollard

Warrant.

Isabella Jane Pollard  
Warrant