

Rockingham County 15 Wic

To the Clerk of the County Court of S<sup>c</sup> County  
We W<sup>rs</sup> W. Maiden & Asher Argabright Justices of the S<sup>c</sup> County  
do hereby Certify, that we have this day committed to the  
W. Gilmer to the Jail of the S<sup>c</sup> County. ~~that he must~~  
to answer an indictment at next term of the County Court  
of the S<sup>c</sup> County for having on the 28<sup>th</sup> of June 1877 killed  
Reuben Bond - by inflicting a wound, penetrating his  
heart - inflicted by a sharp instrument or knife - and the  
hands of him the S<sup>c</sup> J. Dr. Gilmer - Given under our hands  
this 30<sup>th</sup> day of June 1877 -

A Argabright J.P.  
W<sup>rs</sup> D. Maiden J.P.



To the Clerk  
of  
County Court

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Rockingham County to wit.

To all or any one of the Constables or Sheriffs of s<sup>d</sup> County,  
Whereas, by an inquisition taken before Me a Justice  
of the Peace for s<sup>d</sup> County acting as Coroner for s<sup>d</sup> County  
of Rockingham the 28<sup>th</sup> day of June 1877 at <sup>McChesnutville in</sup> the said County,  
on view of the body of Reuben Bonds then and  
there lying dead One Yebulon W. Gilsmer or Gilmer  
Stander charged with ~~murdering & killing~~ <sup>the</sup> the s<sup>d</sup> Reuben Bonds  
There are therefore to command you & each of you  
in the Name of the Commonwealth of Virginia forth-  
with to apprehend the s<sup>d</sup> Y. W. Gilsmer or Gilmer &  
without delay to bring him before Me or some other  
Justice of said County that he may be dealt with  
according to law and for so doing this shall be your  
Warrant Given under my hand and Seal, this  
29<sup>th</sup> day of June 1877

A. Argabright J.P. *AD*



The within warrant executed, by  
arresting L. S. Gilman & bringing him  
before Justice R. Sugabrigton. Attest  
29<sup>th</sup> day of June 1877.

J. B. Scott Deputy  
for J. W. Calton S. B. C.

Commonwealth  
V<sup>s</sup>  
J. W. Gilman



June 29, 1877

Thomas Royer - swim - says

when they met then Reub says to Mr Gilman  
you abused my wife - upon that he starts  
Reub Bonds - I was about 10 steps off -

it was about dusk - I could not see how  
the Rump was held or any thing off that time

It happened on this side the Bridge at the  
right hand on going down - Mr Bonds and  
I did seem to be in any passion at all -

So soon as he started him he & I went on  
down for - Bond after the stabbing  
Bonds came on up this way ~~staying~~  
Met right together Gilman he started Reub  
& ran right on to the house.

Just by Jerry - did Mr Bonds say anything  
after being stabbed? - He said he attended to you  
after a while - Reub told me to go after a doctor  
that he was getting very weak - Mr Gilman  
came up from the direction of Mr. Baders and  
Mr. Bonds was coming up this way - <sup>whether met</sup> Mr. Bonds  
was just walking along with his arms hanging  
down - there was no one else present who could  
have stabbed him

R. E. Hopkins Thomas J Royer

I was standing I suppose about 30 yds  
from the Bridge I heard some conversation  
Some one hollered oh oh some two or three  
I saw a man run across the bridge towards



Mr. Gelineau's house. But did not know who it  
was. about 5 minutes afterward Mr. Little came  
down the street & told me Mr. Gelineau had  
killed Mr. Bond. I came up the street and  
saw Mr. Bond lying on the ground apparently  
dead. I was summoned to assist in the case  
of Mr. Gelineau. I went with the Constable to his  
house. When the Constable arrived there he handed  
me this knife - & said that was the knife that  
he had cut Mr. Bond with - he said that he  
had done it in self defence - did not see any  
of the killing myself - did you see any arms -  
about Mr. Bond? <sup>Ans. Yes, not</sup> Mr. Gelineau further said  
that Mr. Bond had run him out of his Mr.  
Gelineau's place - and when he was him on  
the bridge Mr. Bond caught him & was striking  
the life out of him that he did it in self  
defence & would do it again under similar  
circumstances - I was <sup>standing</sup> sitting ~~at the fence~~ the  
fence. I was sitting in a chair and my spouse said  
someone passed. I recognized Franklin Lipe & got  
up & stood by the fence looking to him a few  
moments - he left and Mr. Ben Bond came up  
& told me Mr. Gelineau & Mr. Bond had been quarrelling  
& when he heard the noise he ran down they were  
at it again or something of that kind. he said  
he would go home so as not to be called upon  
as a witness - I am not sure whether Lipe left or



Not when Mr Bond came up but am not  
sure of it - did not notice what direction he took

R. E. Hopkins

10. Mr. P. Sturgeon

I was standing on the end of Mr. Stoniers  
Store Porch - the East end of the porch - I saw  
Mr. Bond between Mr. Hammons office & Mr. Yancy's  
office coming towards me somewhat Ruling  
with his hand on his left Breast - his shirt  
Bloody - in front of or nearly in front of Mr. Yancy's  
office he fell forward - he said immediately  
Made 2 or 3 steps and said his men stop. Me  
he stagger on some 10 or 12 feet from the end  
of the porch & fell he drew two or 3 breaths  
and then there was a long interval in respiration  
his pulse had left the wrist - I drew up his  
shirt & examined the wound - two jets of blood  
I think spouted out. He died after he fell in  
I think from 3 to 5 minutes - his death I suppose  
was from the wound - It is more than probable that  
he died from the wound - but I will not say certainly  
The Knife apparently entered between the 6 & 7" rib  
the wound was made with a sharp edged cutting  
instrument - ~~the knife was open~~ after the  
Knife entered through the skin the opening  
through the ribs was apparently about an inch &  
a quarter. Nearer the <sup>anterior</sup> Median line than where the



The external opening was - it cut off the 6" rib  
It passed through the upper part of the lower lobe of  
the left Lung - penetrated the Pericardium - must  
probably struck the apex of the heart or somewhere  
close to it - Cannot tell whether it penetrated the  
heart or not without a Postmortem examination  
Cannot say that the wound produced his death -  
without a Postmortem examination the probable  
cause of his death was the wound - doubt that  
there was any thing like heart disease - the direction  
of the wound was upwards, inwards & towards the  
Medicine line

W. P. Sturgeon

W<sup>th</sup> Wm. A. Conn

had been out riding came into  
town between 9 & 10 o'clock I think - I found Dr  
Sturgeon examining a wound in the body of  
Reuben Bond then lying some 10 or 12 feet from the  
corner of Dr. Yancey's parsonage - he asked me to  
examine it - I found that the wound <sup>the skin</sup> had been  
made by some sharp instrument entering, between  
the 6 & 7" ribs the point of the instrument seems to  
have passed <sup>obliquely upwards</sup> ~~high~~ about an inch & a quarter  
thence from the external opening - It penetrated &  
I think entirely, divided the 6" rib & on obliquely  
upwards & inwards from that - I should think it  
entered the upper portion of the lower lobe of the  
left lung - I could feel with the point of my



finger an opening in what I suppose to be the pericardium. I could then barely touch some Muscular substance which I suppose to be the heart. I could not pass my finger far enough though to tell how much farther the wound penetrated but could distinctly feel the opening of the wound there. I should think the wound a dangerous one entering the region it did. My impression is that it was the cause of the death but could not reach far enough with my finger to say certainly without a Post Mortem.

I have arranged to leave tomorrow Morning at 7 A.M. }  
in order to hold a post-mortem examination of the body. }

April 29<sup>th</sup>

I found upon a post-mortem examination that the instrument entered the heart near the apex penetrating the left Ventricle which was the cause of the death.

W. L. Orr

W<sup>d</sup> Surgeon Re examined.

I found that a sharp instrument had entered the body between the 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Ribs cutting the cartilage of 5<sup>th</sup> Rib about the junction of the rib & cartilage also penetrating the left Ventricle of the heart near the apex <sup>supposed to</sup> producing death.

W. D. Surgeon



Mary Virginia Jones -

I was up stairs. Mr. Gilmer came along. I heard a man say what kind of talk have you been doing to my wife. Mr. Gilmer said I have not said any harm to her. Mr. Bond did not speak any more. Mr. Gilmer said I reckon you have enough now. Mr. Gilmer jerked around from him & gathered up his hat & ran across the bridge after he got off of the bridge <sup>Mr. Bond</sup> said Oh Lord. Mr. Gilmer said I reckon you have enough now & if you have not come back I will give you some more - at that time Mr. Gilmer <sup>was</sup> on the star porch. Mr. Gilmer says what have you done. Mr. Gilmer says I have stuck my knife in Potts - he says he met me and <sup>rocked</sup> attacked me on my own land - then attacked me in the road I don't be run over by him & I have give him enough now  
Just - What did you see

The first I saw of them Party they were both together I think he had Mr. Gilmer with his left hand by the collar of his shirt I don't think he hit him at all - Mr. Gilmer then jerked around from him, grab his hat & ran  
I was up stairs at the window of ours they were near the Sign Board. I do not know what distance I saw the parties distinctly when they first met  
Just  
Did you see any Blows pop between them -



3  
I dont think there was any except the one Mr. Gilmer just I saw the motion of his arm they had their faces toward me at the time.

When Mr. Gilmer saw he had his back to me Bondy had not spoke then yet - I thought he <sup>Gilmer</sup> had gone for his shot gun -

Quest - What became of Mr. Bondy

Ans - He was standing there in the road with his hand clamped on his side hollowing Oh Lord, then turned and walked up the way - the next thing I saw of him he was laying up here at the store

Quest - How far apart were they when you first saw them

Ans - They were just about clinching - one was on the bridge the other on the ground -

I have no other remarks by either party further than just stated - it was not more than a minute and a half from the time I first saw them until Mr. Gilmer ran - It was about that time from the time they first met until they parted he had no time to get his knife out of his pocket after they met - I dont think he even had time to open it

Quest - In what position were they standing when you noticed Mr. Gilmer make a motion with his arm

Ans - They were standing face to face the motion was from below upwards - with the right arm

Quest - When you saw the motion of Mr. Gilmer's arm did Mr. Bondy have hold of Mr. Gilmer

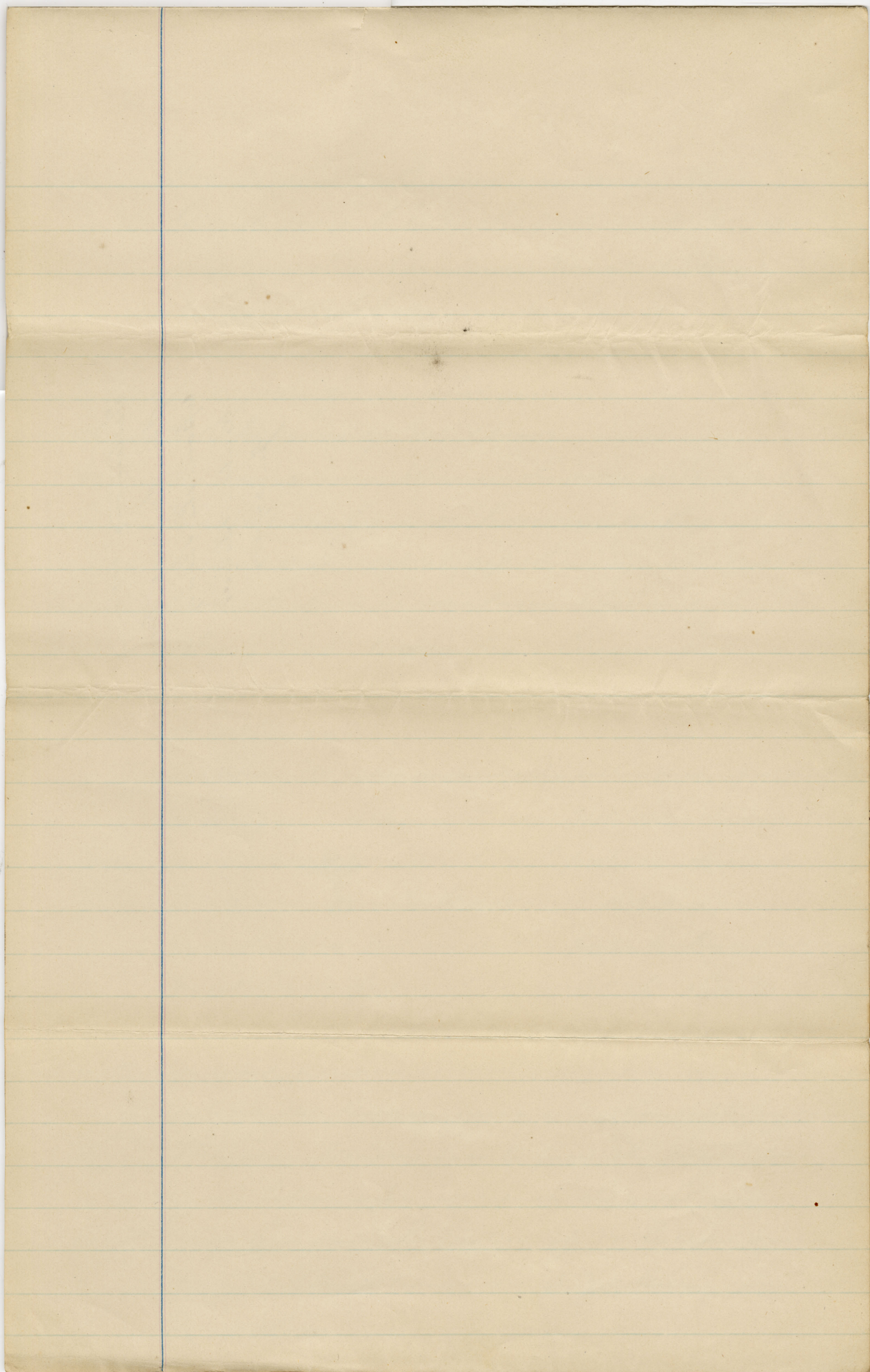
Ans - He did



I do not know what Mr. Bond was doing with his  
right hand whilst he had hold of him with his  
left - Mr. Lilonen has fell off - I do not know what  
caused it to fall off - My house is diagonally  
across the road from where they were standing -  
I think not more than 10 yards - there was a  
Man <sup>or a boy</sup> on a horse when ~~May F. Grinn~~  
it happened - it was about dusk in the evening

Mary V Grinn







Testimony taken  
upon Inquest here  
upon the Body of  
Renter Bonds  
Jan 29/1877



June 28, 1877

Rockingham County to wit-

An inquisition taken at McClahysville - in the county of Rockingham on the 28<sup>th</sup> day & 29<sup>th</sup> days of June 1877 before Asher Argabright - a Justice of the Peace for s<sup>d</sup> County acting as Coroner upon the <sup>view of the</sup> body of Reuben Bond there lying dead.

The jurors sworn to enquire where, how & by what means the said Reuben Bond came to his death, upon their oaths do say; that he came to his death by a wound penetrating his heart; inflicted by a sharp instrument or Knife in the hands of Y. W. Gilmer - that the s<sup>d</sup> wounding was done by some such instrument by the s<sup>d</sup> Y. W. Gilmer - & from which wound the s<sup>d</sup> Bond came to his death - the said wounding was done about dusk on the evening of the 28<sup>th</sup> day of June 1877.

In testimony whereof the s<sup>d</sup> Coroner and Jurors hereunto set their hands A Argabright J.P.

C. R. Rush Foreman

W. J. Weaver

J. M. Rimmel

A. S. Bader

H. B. Silby

Wm. Lipe

B. B. Carr

Whitfield Lindamood

John C. Currieoff

Cas Wm Cahy

Wm M Boyd  
L W Payne



Inquest held upon  
the Body of  
Renee Bonds