

County of Rockingham to-wit.

To D. L. Smith Constable said County-Thomas, by an inquisition lately before me, one of the Commonwealths Coroners of said County the 26<sup>th</sup> day of September 1900 in the said County on view of the body of Henry Plougher. then and then lying dead, one James Ainsy stands charged with manslaughter of the said Henry Plougher.

It is therefore, by virtue of my office as Coroner, to command you, in the name of the Commonwealth of Virginia, forthwith to apprehend the said James Ainsy and <sup>him</sup> without delay bring before some one of the justices of the said County that he may be dealt with according to law - and for so doing this is your Warrant.

Given under my hand and seal, the 26<sup>th</sup> day of September 1900  
 P. L. Fitzgough, Coroner



showed me with-  
in want by  
delivering the  
body of James  
C. King to E. H. Parker  
& showed a picture  
of the photo.  
Sept. 26. 1900.

Do With Henry  
Special Com. R. E.



Statement of James Avey.

"I was lying in front of Otis on the ground - Jimmy Plaugher jumped over me while I was asleep - I struck him with something. I do not know what. The man came here yesterday afternoon - talked to him he appeared friendly - did not see him again until last night. I was not drinking - and do not know that Plaugher was,

Plaugher probably struck me three or four times but did not recognize him until after I had hit him. Do not know what he struck me with - nor do I know <sup>with</sup> what I struck him with. I must have struck him with a stick. After I struck him he staggered back to where he now lays. I called Mr. Roy - and said to him someone was striking me - before I struck Jimmy Plaugher, Mr. Roy jumped up but do not remember what he did."

James <sup>his</sup> Avey  
mark.







## Statement of Tho. Day.

"I was lying on bed when today now lies. I heard Jim Ainy and Henry Plough quarrelling ~~did~~ not remember what they were saying. This was about midnight. I got up and asked them what they were fussing about. Mr Ainy said Mr Plough wanted to fetch a chicken from the rook it. Mr Ainy forbid him and when he did Henry Plough struck ~~him~~ <sup>him</sup> ~~him~~. When I got up Ainy showed him Henry Plough had struck him - I did not see Plough strike Ainy - I then told Mr Ainy to lie down on the bed - he did so. This was the end of the first quarrel - Plough then sat down on box at foot of bed. Jim Ainy laid on bed and slept until Leshm Payne and myself freed the stiles. Mr Plough continued to sit on box. After freeing stiles Mr Payne sprang back on ground in front of stile. laid down and went to sleep. I sat on board in front of stile about five minutes. I then spread a buggy job on the ground and went to sleep also. When I heard a disturbance I got up and found Plough in position he now has. did not know certainly but thought he was dead. Mr Ainy was standing in front of and near to Plough. Ainy had something in his hand but do not know what it was. I asked Ainy if he hit Henry Plough and he said he did. Then I took the lantern and looked at Plough. Then went up and called Jim Ray.

Geo. W. Ray  
March







## Statement of Luther Payne

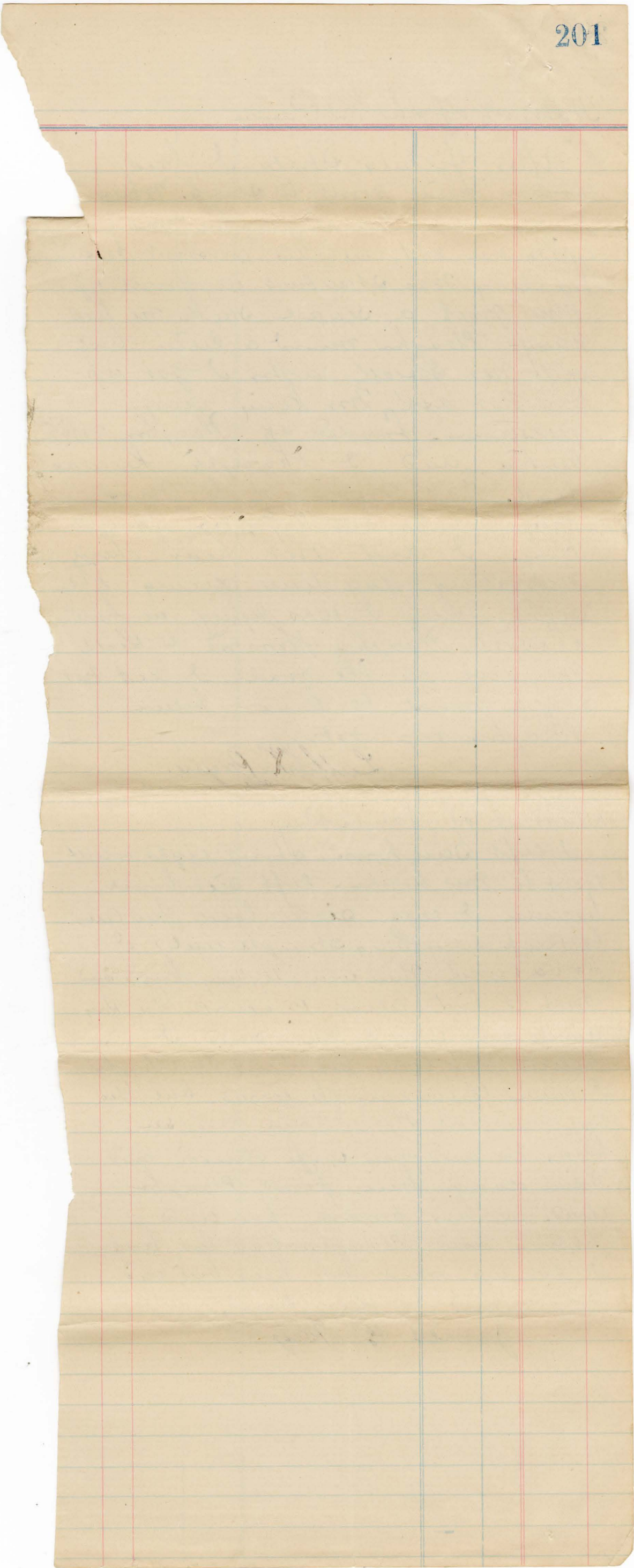
"After feeling stiff I laid down and went to sleep. When I got up Mr Plough was lying on bed in his present position. My Aunty was standing in front of him with a small stick in his hand. Plough moved a little but did not speak after I got up. Did not ask Mr Aunty any questions. Looked at Plough with astonishment and I thought he was dead. Did not talk to Mr Aunty while Mr Roy<sup>my</sup> for James Roy. I did not hear them quarreling any time during the night. When I was lying in front of Aunt Plough intended to kiss me out in the road. I did not say a word to him - believe Plough was ~~John~~ <sup>his</sup> Luther Payne.

## Statement of James Roy.

I left Sues house about eight o'clock went to my house. left Sues house because I was sick - told Jim Aunty to keep everything straight until I could talk. Then went to my house and went to bed. About 12 o'clock Geo Roy came and visited me said I believe Jim Aunty has killed Tom Plough. I wanted to discuss the matter but Geo Roy insisted that I come and see him. Me and my wife dressed and came down here. found Plough dead in his present position. Jim Aunty said Plough had hit him - I got up and hit him but did not intend to kill him.

James G. Roy







## Statement of Miss Thompson

Mr James Roy came to my house for me at about 11 minutes of two last night - asked me go over to Isaac Storms and bring Chas Shiflet and Isaac Storms to his store - said Mr Plougher was dead, I came and brought these men as Mr Roy asked me.

When I got to the store, I found Mr Plougher in his front position, saw Jim Ains, and he said he had to kill Plougher or he would have killed me.

Trides Thompson

## Statement of Chas Shiflet

Mr Thompson came for me I came with him to Roy's store - found Mr Plougher dead and in his front position. Jim Ains was in store-house and not ask any questions - but Mr Ains said he had struck Plougher with a swall sciss I did not see the sciss Mr Ains said he was lying on the ground asleep and Plougher struck him with something and that he then struck Mr Plougher with a sciss - did not intend to kill him -

Chas. Shiflet.







County of Rockingham to-wit  
 An inquisition taken at the  
 distict of James Roy in said  
 County on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of Septm<sup>r</sup>  
 1900 - before D. I. C. Frinton a  
 Coroner of said County upon view  
 of the body of Henry Plaugher  
 then lying dead.

The jurors sworn to inquire  
 whyn, how and by what means  
 the said Henry Plaugher came  
 to his death upon their oaths  
 do say. That Henry Plaugher  
 came to his death by a blow on the  
 right side of the head, by a stick  
 in the hands of James Arey.

Signed - De Witt Hloy

Isaac Hovell

J. O. Robinson  
 B. F. Eye

The following ~~names~~ agree  
 with the above verdict. But  
 believe James Arey acted in  
 self defense.

A. J. Ramsey  
 J. O. Robinson

A. D. D. Gilmore



Commonwealth

vs

Commonwealth  
vs  
James Airey

2 copies

Inquisition + written  
testimony



Rockingham County, to wit:

To J.S. Messerley Clerk of the County Court of said County:

I, Pendleton Bryan....., a justice of said County do hereby certify that I have this day committed James Cissy..... to the jail of said County, that he may be tried before the County Court of said County, for a felony by him committed, in this, that he, on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of September.....1900, in said County did feloniously and of his malice aforethought kill and murder one Henry Plangher.....

Given under my hand this 5<sup>th</sup> day of October.....1900.

Pendleton Bryan..... J.P.

Witnesses for the Court.

Luther Payne

George Ray

or J. C. Firebaugh

Vianda Plangher

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Filed October 6, 1900  
J. J. Mearns, Clerk

3677

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COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA,  
ROCKINGHAM COUNTY,

TO-WIT:

To John C. Switzer Sheriff a ~~Constable~~ of said County:

WHEREAS, Virandea Plaugher of the said county, has this day made complaint and information on oath before me, Dundelon Bryan a Justice of the said county, that

James Cline of the said county, on the 26<sup>th</sup> day of September 1900, in the said county, ~~did~~ feloniously and of his malice <sup>forethought</sup> ~~kill~~ and murder one Henry Plaugher

These are therefore, in the name of the Commonwealth of Virginia, to command you forthwith to apprehend and bring before me, or some other Justice of the said County, the body of the said

James Cline to answer the said complaint, and to be farther dealt with according to law. And you are required to summon George Ray, Luther Payne, James Ray, J. S. Fairbairn, G. E. Floyd to appear and give evidence in behalf of the Commonwealth, on the examination touching the said offence.

Given under my hand and seal this 29<sup>th</sup> day of September in the year ~~18~~ 1900

Dundelon Bryan



Commonwealth

vs.

} Arrest Warrant.

James Airey

Executed the within warrant  
by arresting and delivering the

body of James Airey  
before P Bryan

a Justice of Rockingham County  
and by summoning the within  
named witnesses in person, this

1<sup>st</sup> day of Oct - 1900

J. A. Switzer S. P. C.  
Constable of Rockingham County.

Filed Oct 6, 1900  
J. S. Chesley delat



Rockingham County: to wit:

To Geo. W. Lloyd Special Constable of  
said county, and to the keeper of the  
jail of said county:

These are, in the name of the commonwealth  
of Virginia, to command you, the said  
Special Constable, forthwith to convey and  
deliver into the custody of the keeper of the  
said jail, together with this warrant,  
the body of James Airey charged before me  
Chas. E. Lloyd a Justice of said county,  
on the oath of Geo. Ray, with a felony  
by him committed, in this, that he, the  
said James Airey on the 25th day of Sept 1900  
in said county did kill one Henry Plaugher;  
and you the keeper of the said jail, are  
herby required to receive the said James  
Airey into your jail and custody, that  
he may be tried for the said offence  
before the county court of said county,  
and him there safely keep until he shall  
be discharged by due course of law.

Given under my hand and seal this the  
26th day of September 1900.

Charles E. Lloyd, J. P. & L.S.



Commonwealth of  
Virginia  
vs.

James Gray.