

**Governors Executive Papers – Wells**  
**Accession #43756, Box 1, Folder 2**  
**Wileman Cornwell in Penitentiary - 1868**

To his Excellency the Hon. Francis Pierpont, Governor of Virginia

The undersigned citizens of the County of Prince William, would respectfully call your attention to the case of Wileman Cornwell now confined in the state prison. He was sent for five years for obtaining property under false pretences from this Prince William County. Wileman Cornwell has a large family – a wife and four small children, in very indigent circumstances who will no doubt be subject to great suffering during the present winter in the absence of their natural protector. While the jury found him guilty of the offence charged against him, yet no commission was attended with such circumstance as to excite their sympathy in his behalf and to cause them to express the hope that executive clemency would relieve him from the penalty imposed by themselves. He has now served almost two years of his time. We respectfully petition that the amount of his time be remitted.

R. M. Clarke  
F. M. Garrison  
Magruder Keys  
Henry C. Brawner  
A. Nicol, Atty for Commonwealth  
R. H. Keys  
A. H. Keys  
James Clarke  
C. E. Keys  
Leonard Love  
C. R. Barker  
C. W. Cockrell  
J. R. Purcell  
J. T. B-----  
George M. Ratcliffe  
Alfred Dent  
W. W. Kincheloe

R. H. King  
Wm. S. Chapman  
A----- Money  
C. Dunnington  
Wm. Goodwin, Sheriff PW  
Wm. H. A. Merchant  
H. Carney  
John Sisson  
John Solherland  
C. W. Barker  
John H----  
W. L. Bronaugh  
\_ W. Sutherland  
Richard Stonnell Sen.  
John P. Brawner  
Wm. E. Lipscomb  
Eug. G. Taylor

George N. Fountain  
Walter Keys  
Thomas Golding  
Robt. B. Merchant  
E. Nelson  
C. M. Harding  
Daniel Amidon  
Thomas S. Claggett  
C. F. Gray  
Wm. Round  
Wm. Brawner  
W. Raymond Free  
R. Stonnell  
John Clarke  
D. C. Garrison  
Lucien A. Davis  
Jos. B. Reid

**Governors Executive Papers – Wells**  
**Accession #43756, Box 1, Folder 6**  
**Grand Jury Indictment – A true bill**  
**3 August 1868 – William Manly**

Prince William County to Wit:

In the County Court of said county the jurors of the Commonwealth of Virginia in and for the body of the County of Prince William and now attending the said court upon their oaths present that John Manly and William Manly on the twenty-sixth day of December in the year one thousand eight hundred and sixty seven, in the county aforesaid with malice aforethought, in and upon Benjamin P. Mitchell, did make an assault, they the said John Manly and William Manly being then and there armed with dangerous weapons called hatchets, and did then and there unlawfully beat wound and ill treat him the said Benjamin P. Mitchell with intent him the said

Benjamin P. Mitchell, with set purpose and malice aforethought to kill and murder against the peace and dignity of the Commonwealth of Virginia.

A. Nicol attorney for  
Commonwealth in said County

In Prince William County Court August 3, 1868 H. M. Cunningham foreman and sixteen others were sworn a grand jury for the body of the county, and having received their charge withdrew to consider of their presentments and after some time returned into court, and presented an indictment against John and William Manly.

**Governors Executive Papers – Wells**  
**Accession #43756, Box 1, Folder 7**  
**8 September 1868 – William Manly**

I hereby state that John Manly who was indicted by the grand Jury at the August term 1868 of Prince William County Court for assault upon myself with intent to kill is now a fugitive from justice from the state and that he is now to be found in the District of Columbia.

B. P. Mitchell

Prince William County to wit:

This day B. P. Mitchell personally appeared before the subscriber a justice of the peace for said county and made oath that the facts set out in the foregoing statement are true.

Given under my hand this 8<sup>th</sup> day of September 1868

Wm. A. Bryant J. P.

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**Governors Executive Papers – Wells**

**Accession #43756, Box 11, Folder 13**

**1 February 1869 – George Round**

To J. M. Herndon, Secretary of State, Commonwealth of Virginia

Sir: I have the honor to inform you that having been commissioned as a Notary Public of Prince William County, Virginia January 14<sup>th</sup> 1869. I qualified as required by chapter CXX of the code of 1860 before the County Court on February 1<sup>st</sup> 1869.

I would respectfully request information as to whether the above is the “proper return” required to be filed at your office by the aforesaid chapter.

Also as to whether under the “Acts of Assembly 1866-7 pp 593-4” the acknowledgement of a deed by a married woman is valid if made before one Notary public and one Justice of the Peace.

I am Sir very respectfully &c &c

Your Obedient Servant

George C. Round

Notary Public, Prince William County