

**Brentsville, Va. November 5<sup>th</sup> 1851**

**Box #411, Folder 1, Accession # B1055893**

**Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Joseph Johnson**

In Prince William County Court, November 5<sup>th</sup> 1851. Poll taken by the County Court of Prince William this 5<sup>th</sup> day of November 1851, for the election of a proper person to be commissioned as a sheriff of said County of Prince William.

CANDIDATES

John Fitzhugh	Benjamin Johnson	George G. Tyler
Jas B. T. Thornton	Jas B. T. Thornton	Jas B. T. Thornton
A. Howison	A. Howison	A. Howison
Charles G. Howison	Charles G. Howison	Charles G. Howison
B. E. Harrison	B. E. Harrison	B. E. Harrison

Whereupon John Fitzhugh, Benjamin Johnson and George G. Tyler are nominated to the executive, either of whom may be commissioned sheriff of this county.

Teste J. Williams clerk

**Brentsville, Va. February 23<sup>rd</sup> 1852**

**Box #411, Folder 1, Accession # B1055893**

**Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Joseph Johnson**

To Joseph Johnson Esq., Governor of Virginia, Richmond, Va.

Dear Sir,

Our present High Sheriff has been in office one year & recommended at the November Court last, a copy of which recommendation was sent to you, by mail, but the said Sheriff's commission has not come to hand – permit me to enquire, whether it is necessary for him to be commissioned again, or will he hold over under the new constitution & schedule – please send us an answer by our next court, which sets next week (in haste)

very respectfully

J. Williams C.C.

**Brentsville, Va. May 6<sup>th</sup> 1854**

**Accession # B1055893**

**Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Joseph Johnson**

Nominations for two coroners in Prince William County

Poll taken by County Court of Prince William County this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of May 1854 for the election of two coroners for the county, the court being of opinion that two coroners are necessary.

Candidates

James D. Tennille	George G. Tyler
Leymon Lynn	Leymon Lynn
Benoni E. Harrison	Benoni E. Harrison
Edwin Gaines	Edwin Gaines
George H. Cockrell	George H. Cockrell
Levi C. Lynn	Levi C. Lynn

Candidates

George F. Carney	Hector Kincheloe
Leymon Lynn	Leymon Lynn
Benoni E. Harrison	Benoni E. Harrison
Edwin Gaines	Edwin Gaines
George H. Cockrell	George H. Cockrell
Levi C. Lynn	Levi C. Lynn

Whereupon the Court doth recommend to the executive James D. Tennille and George G. Tyler for the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> District of said County and George F. Carney & Hector Kincheloe for the 1<sup>st</sup> and second District of said County as fit and proper persons to be commissioned to execute the office of coroner within this county. George W. Clifford lately commissioned coroner removed from county.

Teste P. D. Lipscomb, clerk

**Occoquan, Va. June 29<sup>th</sup> 1854**

**Box #421, Folder 2, Accession # B1055893**

**Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Joseph Johnson**

To George W. Meneford Esq., Richmond

Sir,

I enclose to you several certificates about ten days ago, the object of which was to draw upon the communication to find amount coming to the Company I command. Not having heard from them and feeling uneasiness about them I hope you will pardon me for again troubling you for this that, you will write me immediately and let me know if you have yet received said certificates also receipt for freight upon guns.

And very much oblige

Yours respectfully

Isaiah Fisher

(On the back of the above document letter – “Capt. Isaiah Fisher writing from Occoquan, Prince William County has not received a letter he expected from the Secy. Comm. July 3, 1854 – Informed of the Secy. absence & that the Secy’s letter of June 26<sup>th</sup> directed to him at Brentsville probably contains the information he sought – requested to enquire at that office & inform the Secy. of the result.”)

**LaGrange near Thoroughfare, Prince William County**

**Thursday, February 1<sup>st</sup> 1855**

**Box #425, Folder 2, Accession # B1055893**

**Virginia Governors Executive Papers – Joseph Johnson**

His Excellency, Joseph Johnson

Sir;

To day for the first time, though I have been a justice nearly twenty years, the duty devolved on me to hold an inquest on the body of a man who was shot in the breast with a rifle on the afternoon of the 30<sup>th</sup> ult: and died of the wound made by the ball from the rifle in about twenty four hours after the ball entered the right side of the breast. The hole in the breast of the body and the evidence received by the jurors and myself make it clear and can determine that one William J. Sinclair held in his hands and discharged the rifle which placed the ball in the right breast of the body examined. I don’t deem it necessary to advert to or trouble you with the particulars, except to say the murdered man’s name was James Hewitt and that he was murdered in the yard of an unlawful grazing which at the moment was shut up and when none was present except the murderer and the murdered, his son a youth under natural age and one other man and the man and youth was at the moment the rifle was discharged some five to ten steps from the murderer, who seeing the man and youth advancing on him ran off and being at the base of the Bull Run Mountain soon reached it and has not been seen or heard of to the knowledge of any who attended the examination since that is all who were present at the examination said they had not seen or heard of him since. The murderer William J. Sinclair as the verdict of the Inquest make him, is a young man from thirty to thirty five years of age, nearly or quite six feet high, long muscular arms and legs, quite a strong man, not corpulent, but stout, light hair and it is thought gray eyes, if any notable mark, none who I have spoken with respecting recollect. If it is your province to make proclamation and offer a reward on the certificate of a justice or coroner. I hope on receipt you will offer as much for the apprehension of the said William J. Sinclair as the law authorized, and I \_\_\_ you (and shall certify all I have and shall say as justice) many members of the Jury and every spectator present united with me, except one, the unhappy Father of the said Sinclair. This is not the first act of this kind perpetrated by said Sinclair, some few years since he shot the husband of his sister in one of his arms, making him an invalid forever, and as it said would have been killed had not he had a bundle of goods he purchased at store in his hands. Which and his arm shaded his breast.

To all the forgoing I certify.

Benoni E. Harrison, J. P.

for Prince William County

