

BY THE GOVERNOR OF VIRGINIA A PROCLAMATION

Information having been received by the Executive, that James Shepherd
Charged with felony in Raleigh County, has escaped by breaking jail,
And is now going at large.

Therefore, I do hereby offer a **REWARD** of **One Hundred Dollars** to any person or persons who shall arrest the said James Shepherd and deliver him into Jail of the said County of Raleigh; and I moreover require all Officers of this Commonwealth, civil and military, and request the people generally, to use their best exertions to procure the arrest of the said Shepherd, that he may be brought to justice.

Given under my hand as Governor, and under the Lesser Seal of the
Commonwealth, at Richmond, this 9th day of June in the year 1856
Henry A. Wise

Shepherd is described as “about 45 years old. Of rather slender make, about six feet one inch high, black hair, blue eyes and dark skin; teeth very wide before; is very free spoken; had on when he escaped a black jeans coat pretty well worn and black pants; wore large whiskers.”

(This document found in Box 3, Folder 3 of the Executive Papers of Governor Henry A. Wise at the Library of Virginia at Richmond. – Ron Turner)