

6/29/1840

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A man in quest held on the body of
 A. W. O. Atkinson was found dead in his own
 field on the 20th June 1840

The following jury were convicted and after
 being duly sworn for viewing the body of
 the deceased gave their verdict as
 follows To wit

1. David Brown	7. John B. Stewart
2. Samuel Hunt	8. Burwell Brown
3. Wm. Berry	9. A. W. O. Atkinson
4. Joseph Dunham	10. Philip Goodhead
5. Mrs. S. Goodhead	11. A. W. O. Hunt
6. Rev. P. S. Noddy	12. J. A. Stewart

We the jury give in and voted
 that the unknown man be hung without
 a doubt that the said deceased was killed
 by his negroes with their boy

R. W. O. Atkinson
 William B. Stewart

The inquest held on the body of
 John Smith deceased on the 1st June 1870
 returned with the following verdict
 That the deceased died of natural causes
 and was not unlawfully killed
 For the jury 30/11/70

1	John Smith	1	James Brown
2	James Brown	2	John Smith
3	John Smith	3	James Brown
4	James Brown	4	John Smith
5	John Smith	5	James Brown
6	James Brown	6	John Smith
7	John Smith	7	James Brown
8	James Brown	8	John Smith
9	John Smith	9	James Brown
10	James Brown	10	John Smith
11	John Smith	11	James Brown
12	James Brown	12	John Smith

The inquest held on the body of
 Mary Atkinson deceased on the 1st June 1870
 returned with the following verdict
 That the deceased died of natural causes
 and was not unlawfully killed
 For the jury 30/11/70

The inquest held
 on the body of
 Mary Atkinson deceased

6/24/1840 2

Superior Court

Camden

25.

Planned in this manner

They returned to the southern tower
by ascending the northern

mailed May 20. doing only

Have before
20 Dec 1891

Address me. P. B. & Co.

Signatures of the Deacons

I am well & glad to hear of the

By Robert Payton a
Justice of the peace for
Camden County said County to any lawful
officer to execute and return

Whereas on the night of the 20th inst and
there was an inquest held over the body of
Alexander Atkins one swt. lying dead in his
cornfield When the jury gave in a verdict
and that their unanimous voice where that
he was murdered by his negroes namely

1st March

2nd Amos

3rd Prince

4th Ned

5th Big Joe

6th Little Joe

7th Louie

8th William

I do therefore Command
you and each of you to
arrest the said negroes and
bring them before me or some
other Magistrate for said
County.

R. Payton

6/24/1840

When Master first came in the field March was working slow Master said it would not do he told Joe to give March a dozen lashes he told him to whip Ned too he whipped Ned and said March did not put his shirt on quick enough and came up and knocked March as he turned from him March caught him by the waist, Master called Williams Joe said No one come up and no one should halloo or he would blow their brains out ~~no one came~~ Little Joe, Ned March Prince & Louie all came up Louie struck Master & knocked him down he struck him two or three times Ned also struck him with his hoe, they would not allow us to come up to them or to run Joe took Master's gun & his powder and shot, they then started down to the swamp after they had started we screamed and halloed and started from the field we met Richard coming with a bucket of water we told him to run home & tell Mr Paxton what the men had done. Richard went into the field & saw Master laying there & then he jumped the fence and ran round the road screaming and halloing. We met Mr Berry & told him & Mr Berry came in the field - March seized Master & held him Joe took his gun & kept us off after they had killed him Prince Joe & Ned dragged him off William Big Joe & Amos stood off and did not touch him Little Joe said if William Big Joe and Amos did not go off with them he would kill them. When Master called William Little Joe caught him by the throat Williams came near & Joe caught up the gun and kept him off, this was in the evening after dinner the sun about an hour high. I had never heard of any

so he told Joe to give March a dozen lashes
he told him to whip Ned too he whipped Ned
and said March did not put his shirt
on quick enough and came up and knocked
March as he turned from him March choked
him by the waist. Master called Williams Joe
said No one come up and no one should
halloo or he would blow their brains out
~~No one can~~ little Joe, Ned March Prince &
Louis all came up Louis struck Master & knocked
him down he struck him two or three times Ned
also struck him with his hoe, they would not
allow us to come up to them or to run Joe
took Master's gun & his powder and shot. They
then started down to the swamp after they had
started we screamed and halloed and started
from the fields we met Richard coming with a
basket of water we told him to run home &
tell Mr Paxton what the men had done. Richard
went into the fields & saw Master laying there &
then he jumped the fence and ran round the
road screaming and halloing. We met Mr
Berry & told him & Mr Berry came in the
fields - March seized Master & held him
Joe took his gun & kept us off after they had
killed him Prince Joe & Ned dragged him off
William Big Joe & Amos stood off and did
not touch him Little Joe said if William Big
Joe and Amos did not go off with them he
would kill them. When Master called William
Little Joe caught him by the throat Williams came
near & Joe caught up the gun and kept him
off. This was in the evening after dinner the sun
about an hour high. I had never heard of any
plan of the kind before. Richard had heard
old Ned say some time ago in jesting terms if
he could get his hands on some one he would

be safe but he did not hear the name

The Testimony of Rachel

March held Master, Loui struck him, & Ned came up and struck him, Little Joe also held him, Prince held him, Master ~~to~~ called William he came near him & turned back I suppose he was scared, Loui struck him twice and he fell, Ned came up and struck him twice after he fell, Big Joe and Amos had gone down with their row when they had killed him they dragged him down in the corn Amos helped drag him down, Big Joe and ~~and~~ William did not, they all then went away William said he would not stay after the rest had gone Joe took the gun and said he would drop any one in their track, who came up we were afraid to help Master & run about screaming.

The sun was up high it was a cool cloudy day when they left the field Big Joe & William went with them said they could not stay after the rest had gone.

The Testimony of Amy

The first one who caught Master was March Loui ran up and knocked him three times then Ned struck him three times they knocked him with hoes, Little Joe took the gun and told us he would blow our brains out if we came up we ran Big Joe and Amos were down at the other end of the row and did not know any thing about it I did not hear Master call William but saw him running round and believe he was trying to help Master Amos Big Joe & William did not strike Master, they all ran away together Big Joe helped to drag him down in the corn.

held him, Brice held him, Master
called William he came near him &
turned back I suppose he was scared, I
struck him twice and he fell, Ned came up
and struck him twice after he fell, Big Joe
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the other end of the row and did not know any
thing about it I did not hear Master call William
but saw him running round and believe he was
trying to help Master Amos Big Joe & William
did not strike Master, they all ran away together
Brice helped hold him while the others killed
him I do not know whether William had a hoe
or not, the day before he had a small patent hoe

The Testimony of Lydia

William was there when Master was killed he had a little hoe, he ran round and seemed willing to help Master but was afraid. Marsh caught him first and he called for help Little ran up and caught him Loui then struck him with his hoe my brother Ned next struck him. Prince held him. Big Joe and Amos had no hand in the murder. When they heard the alarm they came up near him but did ^{not} touch him. Little Joe had the gun and said if any one ran out of the field or looked back he would shoot them. We ran off into the corn and when we came back they all had gone none of the men except William had a small hoe.

The Testimony of Edmund Atkinson
I was at the place of the murder something like three days after it was done and found a small hoe ~~with blood on it~~ (laying) by the place together with a large one ~~with blood on it~~. The small one we did not examine.

William Price
on Examinations
of the Sacred Character
of the Church
of Alexandria, Alexandria
June 24th 1840
Lectures, Lecture Tray
Wells & Sons

Georgia
Camden County
By E. D. Tracy Andrew M. Peep
J. Daniel Lynn Justice of the
Peace for said County
To Robert P. Burton Esq. one of the
Justices of the Superior Court for said County
Greeting

Whereas March, Amos, Prince
ne. Big Joe, Little Joe, Louis Williams Negroes
belonging to Alexander Atkinson lately deceased
have been arrested for the murder of the
said Alexander Atkinson and brought before
us for examination and whereas such
examination hath induced a strong presumption
of their guilt and they have thereupon
been committed to the jail of said County
to await their trial

We are therefore to notify
you of the same that you may take the
necessary steps to said trial.

Given under our hand
June 24th 1840

E. D. Tracy J. P.
Andrew M. Peep J. P.
Daniel Lynn J. P.

Names of witnesses
Minta
Rachel
Amy
Lydia
Edmund Atkinson

Robt. P. Burton Esq
Justice of the Superior Court
C.C.

30th June 1848
To the Honorable the Justices of the Peace for the County of Cornwall
the County of Cornwall

We the subscribers considering the
circumstances attending the late and
reignous murder of Thos. C. Atkinson of
Cornwall County & the place where the
fatal deed was done do deem it of the
very greatest importance that the ex-
ecution of those convicted of said mur-
der should be ordered by the Court
& should take place on the spot
where the horrid deed was perpetrated
We do therefore most respectfully
pray your honorable body for the
public safety now & forever to direct
& order the execution of the circum-
stanced criminals as above & your petition
we will ever pray &c.

E. Atkinson
C. Ambrose
Wm. Hunt
John W. Goodbread
A. Brown
Hugh Brown junr
H. Readman
Isaac Readman

R. O. D. D. D.
Joseph Thomas
C. M. D. D.
Wm. M. D. D.
J. D. D. D.
W. D. D. D.
George D. D.
Thomas D. D.
Barnes D. D.
J. C. Thomas

John W. Perkins

C. Adair

John May

Anand M. Hays

David Ling

Wm. L. Linn

W. H. King

A. C. Scott

R. D. Down

David Dailer

Wm. C. Vanecko

John E. Brown

J. G. Goodbread

James M. Payton

Robert B. Brown

W. D. Turner

J. L. Brown

J. Brown

Wm. L. Linn

Thos. L. Linn

H. C. D. D. D.

Chas. J. Cole

Ethan Clarke

Albion

G. Percival Cohen

Robt. Linn

John Sheppard 44

6/30/1840

Georgia
 Camden County } J. G. Lucivas Clerk
 of the Superior Court for the County aforesaid
 in the name and behalf of the Citizens
 of Georgia charge and accuse March Louis
 Little Joe Prince, Ned Big Joe, William
 and Amos, of the County and State aforesaid
 Slaves, late the property of Alexander Atkinson
 deceased, with the offence of Murder,
 for that the said March Louis, Little Joe
 Prince, Ned, ~~Big Joe, William and Amos~~
 not having the fear of God before their
 eyes, but being moved and seduced by the
 instigation of the Devil on the twentieth
 day of June in the year of our Lord
 one thousand eight hundred and forty
 at Boggy Swamp plantation, in the County
 and State aforesaid, with fire and arms
 in and upon Alexander Atkinson, their
 master and legal owner, in the peace of
 God and the State then & there being fel-
 lously, wilfully and of their malice afore-
 thought did make an assault and that
 the said March Louis, Little Joe Prince
 and Ned, choked and clasped the said
 Alexander Atkinson by the throat and
 round the waist and with certain rock-
 ing bars made of iron and steel having
 a wooden handle to wit some bars of
 the value of seven Dollars which they
 the said March Louis Little Joe Ned
 and Prince in their right & left hands
 then & there had and held, with the said
 Alexander Atkinson in and upon

and Ned, climbed and clasped the said
Alexander Atkinson by the throat and
round the waist and with certain work-
ing hoes made of iron and steel having
a wooden handle to with some hoes of
the value of \$1000. - Dollars which they
the said March, Louis Little, Ned
and James in their right left hands
then & there had and held, then the said
Alexander Atkinson in and upon
feet, and each part of the head

of him the said Alexander Atkinson, then
and there feloniously, wilfully and of their
malice aforethought, did strike beat and
knock going unto him the said Alexander
Atkinson, then and there with the weapon
now aforesaid in and upon the front
and back parts of the head — of him
the said Alexander Atkinson divers and
sundry mortal bruises, cuts, lacerations and
wounds of the breadth of $4\frac{1}{2}$ — inches
~~and depth of $4\frac{1}{2}$ — inches~~ of which
said mortal bruises, cuts, lacerations and
wounds he the said Alexander Atkin-
son, at Boggy Swamp plantation in
the County & State aforesaid on the said
fourteenth day of June in the year of
our Lord one thousand eight hundred
and forty did languish and there & there
die and that the said Big Joe, William
and Amos were feloniously, wilfully and
of their malice aforethought present, aid-
ing and abetting in the commission of
said offence of murder in & upon the
said Alexander Atkinson

And I the said J. Percival Co-
hen Clerk of the Court aforesaid do say
that the said March Louis Little Joe,
Prince Ned, Big Joe, William and Amos
him the said Alexander Atkinson
their masters and legal owners in maner
and form aforesaid feloniously
wilfully and of their malice afore-
thought did kill and murder, contrary
to the laws of said State, the good order peace

Said Alexander Atkinson

And I the said J. Pucivas Co-
hen Clerk of the Court aforesaid do say
that the said March Louis Little Joe,
Prince Ned, Big Joe, Williams and Amos
know the said Alexander Atkinson
their master and legal owner in name
and form aforesaid feloniously
willfully and of their malice afore-
thought did kill and murder, contrary
to the laws of said State, the good order peace
and dignity thereof

Attest 29 June 1840

J. Pucivas, Clerk
C. C. C. C.

No state
del

March, Lewis, Little
Joe, Prince, Peter
Big Joe, William
and several others
take the property of
Helen in the clothing
and accessories.

Murder —

Not found by

Estmoyall

Why for persons

No state against Mary

We the Jury find the following Negro Men guilty
of Murder in the first Degree

Viz — March

Lewis

Little Joe

Ned &

Prince

Peter C Johnson — Foreman

We the Jury find the following Negro Men
not Guilty.

Viz Big Joe

Amos &

William Peter C Johnson — Foreman

June 30th
1840

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The Court then proceeded to pass the sentence
of death according to the requirements of the laws
of the land on the following named slaves, the
property of the late H. Atkinson of said County
to wit: March, Prince, Ned, Little Joe, and
Louis, you and each of you shall be taken
by the Sheriff back to the prison whence
you came and there safely kept until
Monday the sixth day of July next ensue-
ing, & that on that day be taken by said
Sheriff from Prison and carried to the
plantations generally known as the -
"Boggs Swamp" place, & between the
hours of ten o'clock in the morning
and four o'clock in the afternoon of
that day ~~and~~ shall be publicly hung
by the neck, as near the place as you
committed the murder as can be
ascertained, until you are dead,
dead and may All mighty God
have mercy upon your souls

Papers relating
to Virgil &
trial of Slaves
of Alexander
Atkinson.

1840