

At a court of Oyer and Terminer summoned and held for the county of Southampton on the 28th day of June 1825 for the trial of ~~Abel~~ a negro ~~slave~~ ^{Bay} slave the property of ~~Isabel~~ Daughtrey ^{of this county} for feloniously & willfully murdering James Powell and ~~America~~ ^{his wife} on the night of the 14th of this present month some at the dwelling house of ^{them} the said James Powell & America Powell, his wife.

Pres^t. Benjamin Cobb, Jacob Daughtrey, James S. M. appling,
Wm. E. Daughtrey & Wm. E. Everett Gent.

The court being thus constituted the prisoner was set to the bar by the Sheriff of this county into whose custody he was hitherto committed and charged with the felony aforesaid, and being thereof arraigned and upon his arraignment pleaded not guilty and for his trial put himself upon his god and this court, and thereupon oaths were sworn and examined on behalf of the Commonwealth touching the premises, to wit, Patrick Oles of full age being sworn depaith and said that early in the morning of the 14th of this present month, the young man who lives at the home of the respondent, informed him this respondent that he thought the house of James Powell was on fire and had sent a negro man George the property of this respondent to see if it was the fact, but before the conversation between this respondent and the young man had ceased, the said negro man George returned and informed this respondent that Powell's house was on fire. This respondent asked George if he saw any person stirring, he replied he did not. This respondent then observed it was probable they were all consumed in the house, and ordered all hands to go over and if it was not the case to render all the assistance they could. This respondent after putting on his clothes, immediately went over to the assistance of Powell, and when he arrived there, he found the house of Powell consumed and himself & wife also consumed therein, after walking about and making some examination to see what discovery he could make, he discovered that a trunk which was brought out of the house was broken or burst open, and the papers very much scattered about, ^{that} Powell remains were lying where a ~~at~~ ^{at} formerly floor appeared to be on the back, and Mr. Powell's lying where a bed formerly stood in the house.

— Belia a negro girl slave the property of Henry Daughtrey estate of the county of ~~Southampton~~ ^{Pragmore} being charged and sworn, ^{on the day before the murder was committed} said that, the prisoner said to her this respondent that he the prisoner had something to tell her which he was afraid to ^{tell} ^{the said knight} say, for fear this respondent would tell of it, and just at night of the same day he ~~stated~~ ^{warned} this respondent that he wanted her to tell them people, ^{meaning Powell's wife} that he would give her this respondent five dollars to do it.