

Record of Court
Sept. 8, 1831

Nat and Jack and thereupon the said Jack the negro man slave the property of William Reese was set to the bar in custody of the sheriff of this county and the court doth assign Thomas R. Gray esq. counsel for the prisoner in his defence. and the prisoner being arraigned of the premises pleaded not guilty to the information. and

Mary a slave being sworn and charged as a witness for the Commonwealth says that the prisoner came to the house of the witness master Mr. Joseph Travis, on Sunday night preceding the murder of Mr. Travis & family - Complained of being sick and wanted to go home but said Mark would not let him go - witness did not know exactly when the prisoner came, but saw him first with his head between his hands resting on his knees - Mark had Jack's sister for a wife - witness says her master Mr. Travis & family went abroad on that day - and did not get back until it was dark -

The prisoner was in the kitchen when the witness went to sleep - and when witness awoke a few hours after the prisoner was in the yard sick - the witness says Jack went off with the negroes who came to Mr. Travis & murdered him and family - the negroes went from Mr. Travis's to Salathiel Francis and Mr. Reese they made the prisoner go with them -

Thomas R. Jones being sworn as a witness says that - when the prisoner was brought here in custody he was delivered to him. and made the following Voluntary Confession - That on Sunday preceding the insurrection Mark one of the insurgents came to him and asked him if he would go with him, Mark took the prisoner to a place where several other negroes were assembled and a dinner prepared - that they explained to him the witness that they intended to rise and kill all the white people - that ^{one of the company} the prisoner objected and said their number was too few. Mark replied and said as they went in and killed the whites the blacks would gain them - and it appearing to be necessary for the prisoner's peace that other witnesses should be in attendance the court doth suspend further proceeding in this case -

Sept. 1831

Nat a negro man slave the property of Edwin Turner Esq. was then set to the bar in custody of the sheriff of this county, and the court doth assign William L. Parker counsel for the prisoner in his defence, and the prisoner being arraigned of the premises pleaded not guilty to the information. and Mary T. Barron being sworn ~~and~~ witness says that the prisoner was one of the negroes that came to her husband's house on the day that her husband was murdered that the prisoner fired off a gun in the yard and threw it down, That she knows the prisoner he lived at her house the last year and she was within thirty steps of

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