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State of North Carolina } August 5<sup>th</sup> 1870  
Harriman County } 3

To His Excellency W.  
W. Graham Governor of the State of North Carolina

The petition of Secured  
Tarples respectfully sheweth unto your Excellency  
that at the Spring term of the Superior Court  
for Harriman County begun and held by  
the Hon. A. W. Tompkins judge of the Southern  
judicial district, at the Court House in  
Graham on Monday the 13<sup>th</sup> day of June  
A. D. 1870. Your petitioner was arraigned and  
tried on a bill of indictment, a certified  
copy whereof is hereto attached. Your petitioner  
further sheweth unto your Excellency that  
the witness on behalf of the State was substan-  
tially as follows, to wit: That on the 6<sup>th</sup>  
day of April 1870 he the petitioner had secreted  
himself behind a tree near the road side  
of the road returning from the mine of Com-  
pany Shops in a southerly direction, and  
about one mile from said mine in walking  
and and then and when one Betty Log, a girl about  
thirteen years of age, was passing along said road  
on her way to one Mrs. Morris when she first he suddenly  
emerged from his hiding place, and saying the  
said Betty Log in his arms he forcibly carried  
her into the woods some fifty or one hundred  
yards from the road where he now resides and

know the said Pettio Coy against his  
consent; that the said Pettio Coy made this  
known to Mrs Norway the wife of the  
gentleman at whose house she lived  
as soon as she got thro' it being about one  
mile from the scene of her outrage, that she  
the said Pettio Coy did not know the name  
of her curisher at the time, but knew him  
to be the same person, whom she had seen  
an hour or about that time before, at  
a store in the village of Company Shops  
whom she had gone on an errand for the  
family with whom she lived, and he was  
immediately upon sight recognized by her  
as the perpetrator of her outrage, and on her  
return it was that she was nut and carried  
by your petitioner as above stated. There  
was further that from the effects of  
her outrage, she suffered physically for a  
long time, to wit for about two weeks, having  
medical attention the while. It was further  
in evidence that on the day before the trial  
your petitioner, thro' in joint name of his  
own free will and accord, a full confession  
of the crime he had committed in ac-  
cordance with the above statement, that  
this confession was not drawn from him  
by any threats promised or made, but was  
purely voluntary, in evidence for punishment

The jury returned a verdict of guilty  
whereupon your petitioner was sentenced  
to be hanged by the neck with his hands  
behead on Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> day of August  
1840. A certified copy of said verdict and  
proceedings of the court is hereto attached.

Your petitioner prays Executive  
Clemency upon the grounds that he is a colored  
boy of three years being on the said 19<sup>th</sup>  
day of April 1840 only a few months more  
than fifteen years old, and having been  
tried in ignorance, he prays your Excellency  
will consider his three years and  
commute his punishment from that  
pronounced by the proceedings of the Court  
to imprisonment in the State prison  
for life - and your petitioners would  
ever pray.

Amos Taylor

Petition for Pardon

Alamogordo

Copy for the  
Hon A. M. Stoughton  
Judge &c

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