

The following anti-rent war indictment was submitted by Steve McNeill, January 9, 2008 to the Delaware County NY Genealogy and History website.

Delaware Oyer & Terminer

The People
Vs
James Dickson
& others

Indict for being disguised
& armed (Stewart Sale)

J. A Hughston
Dist. Atty.

A true bill

Oring Griffin foreman
filed Sept. 29, 1845
Oct. 1, 1845. Deft. Levi
Jenkins arraigned & plead
guilty

Do. Homer Sanford
Oct. 1, 1845

Oct. 4, 1845 Deft.
Jason Sanford arraigned &
plead guilty to being
disguised & armed & not
guilty to the residue

The Jurors of the People of the state of New York in & for the body of the County of Delaware on their oath do present that James Dickson Abel Elijah John N Davis Thomas Davis Alexander Campbell William Minzie John Rob Adam Minzie Thomas Stanham Silas Carman John Phoenix Thomas Laidlow Abraham Swart of the town of Andes in said County of Delaware laborers Peter F Swart Homer Sanford Jason Sanford Oscar Sanford Nelson Sweet George Tompkins Thomas Tompkins jr Isadore Demund, Horace Mays, Abel A Fuller Stilman Bellows Asa Bellows Elijah Hull David Close Levi Sanford Foster Ellison & of the town of Middletown in said County of Delaware laborers and Levi Jenkins of the town of Roxbury in said County of Delaware laborer together with divers other evil disposed persons to the number of ten & to the jurors aforesaid unknown at the town of Delhi is said County of Delaware on the fifteenth day of

February 1845 with force & arms unlawfully wickedly willfully feloniously riotously & tumultuously did assemble & gather together to disturb the peace of the people of the state of New York, and did then & there paint discolour cover & conceal their & each of their faces, and did so disguise their & each of their faces persons as to prevent themselves from being identified and did then & there arm themselves with swords dirks guns rifles pistols & other offensive weapons, and while so having their & each of their faces painted discoloured, covered & concealed, and their & each of their persons so disguised as aforesaid, and being so then & there unlawfully riotously rously & feloniously assembled & gathered together as aforesaid and being so armed with swords dirks guns rifles pistols & other offensive weapons did then & there make great noise riot tumult & disturbance for a long space of time to wit for the space of one hour then next ensuing to the great terror & disturbance not only of the good people then & there inhabiting residing & being but of all other good people of the State of New York then & there passing & repassing along the public streets & highways in contempt of the said people & their laws & contrary to the provisions of the act entitled “an act to prevent persons appearing disguised & armed” passed January 28, 1845 against the form of the statute & of said act in such case made & provided and against the peace of the people of the state of New York & their dignity

And the jurors aforesaid upon their oath aforesaid do further present that the said James Dickson Abel Elijah John A. Davis Thomas Davis Alexander Campbell William Minzie John Rob, Adam Minzie Thomas Stanham Silas Carman John Phoenix Thomas Laidlow Abraham Swart Peter F. Swart Homer Sanford Jason Sanford Oscar Sanford Nelson Sweet George Tompkins Thomas Tompkins jr Isadore Demund, Horace Mays, Abel A Fuller Stilman Bellows, Asa Bellows, Elijah Hull David Close, Levi Sanford Foster Ellison & of the town of Middletown in said County of Delaware laborers and Levi Jenkins together with said divers other evil disposed persons to the number of ten & more to the jurors aforesaid unknown afterwards on the fifteenth day of February 1845 - at the said town of Delhi in said County of Delaware unlawfully wickedly willfully & feloniously did assemble & gather together to disturb the peace of the people of the sate of New York, and while so unlawfully wickedly willfully & feloniously assembled & gathered together as aforesaid, did then & there paint discolour cover & conceal their & each of their faces and did so disguise their & each of their person as to prevent themselves from being identified & did then & there arm themselves with swords dirks guns rifles pistols & other offensive weapons and while so unlawfully wickedly willfully & feloniously assembled & gathered together as aforesaid, & while so having their & each of their faces painted discolored covered & concealed & while so then & there armed as aforesaid, did then & there wickedly willfully & feloniously remain & continued so assembled & gathered together armed & disguised as aforesaid for a long space of time to wit for the space of one hour then next ensuing to the evil example of all others in like cases offending contrary to the provisions of the act entitled “an act to prevent persons appearing disguised & armed” passed January 28, 1845 against the form of the Statute & of said act in such case made & provided & against the peace of the people of the state of New York & their dignity

J.A.Hughston
Dist. Atty.