

Maurice A. Deane School of Law at Hofstra University

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10-17-1785

### **Strafford County Case File No. 132, Strafford County Courthouse, Dover, New Hampshire - Arrest Order for John Tasker**

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**W**E Command you to attach the Goods or Estate of **John Tasker** of **Barnstead** in our said County of **Stafford** Esq. to the value of **two hundred** pounds, and for want thereof to take the body of the said **John** (if he may be found in your precinct) and safely keep, so that you have him before our Justices of our Inferior Court of Common Pleas, next to be holden at **Dover** within and for our said County of **Stafford** — on the **third** Tuesday of **February** next then and there in our said Court to answer unto **Richard Sinkler** Junr.

of **Barnstead** aforesaid Gentleman in an Action of **Trespass** on the Case for that whereas on the seventh Day of **October** 1785 at **Barnstead** aforesaid one **Jacob Daniels** of said **Barnstead** Gentleman exhibited a Complaint in writing to the said **John Tasker** the Def. (then & ever since <sup>one</sup> of the Justices of the peace for said County of **Stafford**) against the said **Richard Sinkler** therein among other things setting forth that the said **Richard** at **Barnstead** on the sixth Day of the same **October** 1785 with force & arms & without any just provocation

did make a violent assault on the said **Daniels** contrary to the peace & good order of said State & did then & there beat wound & kill in treat the said **Daniels** & did other enormities to the great Damage of the said **Daniels** & Terror of the good People of said State & against the peace & dignity thereof — Whereupon the said **Tasker** there afterword on the same seventh day of **October** issued his warrant under his hand & seal against the said **Sinkler** and there afterword on the tenth day of the same **October** by virtue of the same Warrant the said **Sinkler** was apprehended & brought before the said **Tasker** for trial and the trial put off to the seventeenth Day of the same **October** at which time the said **Sinkler** appeared & prayed for trial but the said **Tasker** refused to bring him upon trial & adjourned his Court to the Twenty first Day of **October** 1785 & ordered the said **Sinkler** to appear at **Durham** in said County to answer to the Complaint aforesaid before him & **John Smith** the third Esq. who the said **Tasker** agreed should sit in judgment with him at **Durham** aforesaid on the Complaint aforesaid on the same Twenty first Day of **October** 1785 But the said **Tasker** in no wise

— This said Office as Justice of the

ing a plea off. To the seventeenth Day of the same  
October at which time the said Sinkler appeared  
& prayed for trial but the said Tasker refused to  
bring him upon trial & adjourned his Court to  
the Twenty first Day of October 1785 & ordered the said  
Sinkler to appear at Durham in said County to  
answer to the Complaint aforesaid before him & John  
Smith the third Esq. who the said Tasker agreed should  
sit in judgment with him at Durham aforesaid  
on the Complaint aforesaid on the same Twenty first  
Day of October 1785 But the said Tasker in no wise  
regarding the Duties of his said Office as Justice of the  
peace but maliciously contriving & fraudulently in-  
tending to injure the Plat. & to commit him to prison  
without any cause colour reasonable pretence or  
legal reason therefore did not attend at said Durham  
on the same Twenty first Day of October to try the said  
Sinkler on the Complaint aforesaid but there after-  
ward on the second Day of November last under Co-  
lour of Law & without any just grounds did make  
out a mittimus directed to one Benjamin Nutter  
Constable of Barnstead to the keeper of the Goal at  
Dover in said County therein among other things  
things falsely maliciously & without any just grounds  
or reasonable colour setting forth that the said  
seventeenth Day of October 1785 & requested to find  
Sureties for his appearance at the then next Court of  
Quarter Sessions of the peace to be holden at Dover  
aforesaid on the third Tuesday of November the next  
to answer to such things as should then & there be  
Objected against him by one Jacob (Daniel of Barnstead  
said County & in the meantime to keep the peace  
in the Subjects of said State & especially towards  
said Richard had

complaint aforesaid on the same Twenty fifth  
Day of October 1785 But the said Tasker in no wise  
regarding the Duties of his said Office as Justice of the  
peace but maliciously contriving & fraudulently in-  
tending to injure the Plat. & to commit him to prison  
without any cause colour reasonable pretence or  
legal reason therefore did not attend at said Durham  
on the same Twenty fifth Day of October to try the said  
Sinkler on the complaint aforesaid but thereafter  
on the second Day of November last under Co-  
= word of Law & without any just grounds did make  
out a mittimus directed to one Benjamin Nutter  
Constable of Barnstead & to the keeper of the Goal at  
Dover in said County therein among other ~~things~~  
things falsely maliciously & without any just grounds  
or reasonable colour setting forth that the said Richard  
was brought before him the said Tasker on the same  
Seventeenth Day of October 1785 & requested to find  
Sureties for his appearance at the then next Court of  
Quarter Sessions of the peace to be holden at Dover  
aforesaid on the third Tuesday of November then next  
to answer to such things as should then & there be  
Objected against him by one Jacob (Daniel of Barnstead  
in said County & in the meantime to keep) the peace  
towards all the Subjects of said State & especially towards  
the said Jacob (Daniel) & that the said Richard had  
refused & still did refuse to find such Sureties & therefore  
did in the name of the said State command the said Constable  
able forthwith to convey him the said Richard to the Goal  
in Dover aforesaid & to deliver him to the keeper thereof & also  
commanded the keeper thereof to receive him the said  
Sinkler the Plat. into Custody in said Goal until he should  
find such Sureties as aforesaid or be otherwise liberated according  
to Law by virtue of which same mittimus falsely & without  
colour issued by the said Tasker the said Nutter took &  
apprehended & imprisoned the said Sinkler & him for a long  
time viz, for the space of five Days in Prison detained until  
he was compelled to expend large sums of money to procure  
his enlargement from the said & imprisonment aforesaid all of  
which

To the damage of the said Sinkler as he says the sum of  
two hundred pounds, which shall then and there be made to appear, with  
other due damages. And have you there this Writ, with your doings therein.  
Witness George H. Esq. at Dover the 24th day of January - Anno Domini, 1786

Wm Thompson Clerk.  
A Copy Examined by W. Thompson Clerk Pro Teno.



State of New Hampshire } February 6th. 1736 Pursuant to the  
Strafford ss } within Precept I have attached a Chain  
of the within Named Debt value 7<sup>l</sup> &  
gave him a summons as the Law Directs  
Service of - James Smith Dep. Sheriff

And the said Tasker <sup>reserving a Deposition</sup> liberty to waive  
this & give any other plea at the Court above for  
plea says he thinks it would be greatly for the peace  
of the said Sinker was always confined  
thereof put himself on the Country.

J. Sherburne

And the S. Sinker agreeing as above says the Debt  
has no legal answer to his Declaration & thereof  
judges for the Sinker & costs by J. & M. Mason  
And the said Tasker says his plea is a legal answer  
to the within Declaration & thereof prays judgment  
for his Costs - J. Sherburne  
Copy Examined by B. Thompson Clerk Pro Tem.

And the S. Tasker waiving the above plea  
& giving a Deposition & liberty to give any  
plea or other in evidence for plea says  
he is not guilty on oath & swears  
on the Oath that declared & swears  
himself on the Country to  
J. Sherburne