

14076

No. _____

Supreme Court of Illinois

People

vs.

Dobson

Copy of Warrant

State of Illinois } The People of the State of
City of Springfield } Illinois to the Jailor of
Sangamon County Suetons

Whereas Dobson Ferguson has been arrested and brought before me upon a charge of passing fifty Cents, of Counterfeit and spurious Coin knowing the same to be counterfeit and purporting to be good and genuine Coin of the United States, and whereas the testimony in the case induces the belief that the said Ferguson is guilty of the charge.

These are therefore to command you to take into your custody the body of the said Ferguson & him safely keep in the Common Jail of the County so that you have his body before the next term of the Circuit Court of the County of Sangamon to answer to such bill of indictment as a grand jury may prefer against him upon the charge aforesaid Given under my hand & the seal of the City this 15th Dec. 1841.

U. S. Mayor

(Seal)

To the Honorable the judges of the Supreme
Court of the State of Illinois.

The Petition of Dobson Ferguson sheweth that
he is wrongfully detained in the County jail of
the County of Sangamon State of Illinois having
been unlawfully committed to said jail by

one William L. May Esq. ^{Mayor of the City of}
Springfield ^{upon a warrant of commitment} ^{the original hereunto presented}
^{which commitment was} without any authority therefor

upon a charge of passing fifty cents of
counterfeit & spurious coin knowing the same
to be counterfeit & purporting to be good and genuine
coin of the United States. Your Petitioner states
that said May had neither authority to commit
him, ^{upon} for said charge - nor had he any juris-
-diction ~~of~~ ^{for} said offence. That this Petitioner
was committed by said ^{May} alone, and not by two
justices of the Peace as is required by the
laws of this State; that the said May did
not, as he is expressly required by the laws of this
State to do, previous to the examination of the
witnesses, nor ~~indeed~~ at any time prior
to committing this Petitioner to jail, associate
with him some neighbouring justice of the
Peace: but ^{permitted} ~~conducted~~ the examination of the
witnesses before him. The said May only ~~and also~~
that he said May alone, committed this Petitioner
to jail aforesaid. And further, that it does not
appear that he was committed to jail because
no good & sufficient ^{or for want thereof} bail was offered; and
lastly because it is not endorsed on the warrant
of Commitment in what sum bail ought to
be taken: All of which is contrary

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Law, whereupon he prays this Honorable Court
tho the writ of "Habeas Corpus" may be awarded
him, that he may be brought before this Court
and discharged from his illegal imprisonment.

Dec. 17. 1841

John Ferguson

Benjamin Edwards

on behalf of John Ferguson

Habeas Corpus
Petition of John
Ferguson

Filed 17th Dec 1841

Clerk
C. H. C.

14096