WARD B. MARTIN AND JOHN WEBER, COMPLAINANTS.

VS.

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THE FOLLOWING DESCRIBED LAND IN
BAIDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA, situated in
Fractional Section 19, Township 6 South,
Range 2 East, and Fractional Section 24,
Township 6 South, Range 1 East, of the
Dinsmoore Survey of Baldwin County, Alabama,
viz: Commence at the Southwest corner of said
Section 19, running thence North 31 chains,
thence North 27 degrees East 6 chains, thence
North 8 degrees East 18.44 chains to a point
in the center of the county road 1.78 chains
South of the bridge over Big Gully, thence
North 70 degrees West 20 feet for a point of
beginning of land hereby conveyed; thence
North 70 degrees West 10 chains, more or less,
to Mobile Bay, thence North 8 degrees East 1.60
chains along the eastern shore of Mobile Bay,
thence South 77 degrees East 10 chains, more
or less to the West boundary of the County
road, and thence South 10 degrees West 2.85
chains to the point of beginning, the tract
of land hereby described containing two and
twenty-two hundredths acres, more or less;
Laurent Millaudon. et al,
RESPONDENTS.

NUMBER 679

NUMBER 679

IN THE

CIRCUIT COURT OF

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA

IN EQUITY.

# FINAL DECREE.

being submitted on the pleadings and evidence as noted in the note of evidence and the allegations of the bill of complaint being sustained by legal and competent evidence to the satisfaction of the Court, and it appearing to the Court that the complainants are entitled to the relief prayed for:

It is now therefore hereby ordered, adjudged and decreed that the complainants have judgment as prayed for in their bill of complaint herein, against the land described in the bill of complaint, and the defendants and each of them; that all claims of the defendant, Laurent Millaudon, if he be living, and if dead all claims of his heirs, personal representatives, next of kin and devisees, and each of them, in and to the lands described in the bill of complaint, and all claims of all persons, firms or corporations other than complainants, claiming the said land, or any part thereof, or any interest therein, or lien or incumbrance thereon

are hereby adjudged and decreed to be invalid and groundless. And the complainants are hereby declared, adjudged and decreed to be the true and lawful owners, absolutely and in fee simple of the said lands, which are described as follows:

The following described land in Baldwin County, Alabama, situated in Fractional Section 19, Township 6 South, Range 2 East, and Fractional Section 24, Township Six South, Range One East, of the Dinsmoor Survey of Baldwin County, Alabama, viz: Commence at the Southwest corner of said Section 19; running thence North 31 chains, thence North 27 degrees East 6 chains, thence North 8 degrees East 18.44 chains to a point in the center of the county road 1.78 chains South of the bridge over Big Gully, thence North 70 degrees West 20 feet for a point of beginning of land hereby conveyed; thence North 70 degrees West 10 chains, more or less, to Mobile Bay, thence North 8 degrees East 1.60 chains along the Eastern shore of Mobile Bay, thence South 77 degrees East 10 chains more or less to the West boundary of the county road, and thence South 10 degrees West 2.85 chains to the point of beginning, the tract of land hereby conveyed containing 2.22 acres, more or less,

and that the title to said lands, both in law and in equity is hereby adjudged and decreed to be in the said complainants, Ward B. Martin and John Weber, and it is further adjudged and decreed by the Court that the said complainants! title to the said lands is hereby quieted against all claims or demands of any and all other persons, firms and corporations claiming any title to, interest in, or lien or incumbrance upon said lands.

It is further ordered, adjudged and decreed that the Register of this Court shall, within thirty days from the rendition of this decree, prepare and file a certified copy thereof in the office of the Judge of Probate of Baldwin County, Alabama, for record, and tax the expense thereof as a part of the expense of this cause, and it is further directed that the Judge of Probate shall record said copy in the same book and manner in which deeds are recorded, and index the same in the name of Ward B.Martin and John Weber on the direct index, and in the name of the said Laurent Millaudon, and his unknown heirs, personal representatives, next of kin and devisees, on the reverse index.

It is further ordered, adjudged and decreed that the title herein established in complainants shall enure to the benefit of all persons who derive title to said lands or any interest therein from or through the complainants.

It is further ordered, adjudged and decreed that the complainants be taxed with all costs in and about this cause, for the Dated at Bay Minette, Alabama, this \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ day of March, 1927.

John D. Leigh

Wand B. Neasier

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Ward A. Worlin Et al. # Circuis Recent Board

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Et al.

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STATE OF ALABAMA, Baldwin County. CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY. Complainants.

Defendants.

MOTION FOR DECREE PRO CONFESSO ON PUBLICATION.

Filed .....

Register.

Recorded in Record,

Vol. Page

Register.

Baldwin Times Print, Bay Minette.

The State of Alabama,	CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY.		
BALDWIN COUNTY.	No. 629	Vocation	Term, 192.
Man B. Moster Ep a	0		Complainants
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Oanach Ulloopeedan C		······································	Defendants
Motion is hereby made for a Decree Pro Confesso	against QC(	Defrue Joes	3 aces
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in the annexed stated cause, on the ground that more than	thirty days have ela	psed since the perfect	ion of publication
was made under the order of this Court; and it having bee	n shown by due pro	of to the Court that sa	id Defendant is a
non-resident of the State of Alabama, and has failed to a	nswer, plead or dem	ur to the Bill in this ca	ause, to the date
hereof.  This 19th day of Uldral	<u></u>	7	
746 Code.	Merie	ellace Pre	202_
			Solicitor.

THE STATE OF ALABAMA, CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY.
THE STATE OF ALABAMA,  BALDWIN COUNTY.  Solve of the State of Alabama, CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY.  No. 6 W 9  No. 6 W 9  Term, 1927
Way B Water Ed ce Complainant S.
vs. Janvier Clécoupon Laced Described 2h al Defendant 5
In this cause it appears to the Registerthat the order of publication here-
tofore made in this cause, was published for four consecutive weeks, commencing on the 1/1 day of
a newspaper published in Bagnicustia Alabama, that a copy of said order was posted at the Court
House door in Callynice County, on the 21 L day of
House door in 1927, and County, on the day of
And it now further appearing to the Register, that the said
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having to the date hereof failed to demur, plead to or answer the Bill of Complaint in this cause, it is now, there-
fore, on motion of Complainant , ordered and decreed by the Registerthat the
Bill of Complaint in this cause be, and it hereby is in all things taken as confessed against the said.
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Kegister, Record Recorded in PUBLICATION. DECKEE BEO COMEESSO ON 'SÁ CIRCUIT COURT, IN EQUITY Baldwin County. THE STATE OF ALABAMA,

629°N

Faled Hilly ? Ward B Martin WARD B. MARTIN AND JOHN WEBER,

VS.

MILLAUDON, ET AL,

J. 2066 ...

THE LAND HEREIN DESCRIBED, LAURENT

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA. IN EQUITY.

NUMBER \_\_\_\_

Deposition of Ward B.Martin, witness examined on behalf of the complainants, in the above entitled cause, taken before Lelia C.Harris, Commissioner, at the time, place and in the manner hereinafter stated.

DEPOSITION OF WARD B. MARTIN.

My name is Ward B. Martin. I live in Fairhope, in Baldwin County, Alabama, and have been there for about twelve years, and live within about half a mile from the land described in the bill of complaint and know it intimately. I am 56 years of age, and Mr. John Weber, the other complainant in this cause, is about the same age. Both of us have residences at Fairhope, in Baldwin County, Alabama. The land I refer to consists of a little more than two acres, and is particularly described as follows: The following described land in Baldwin County, Alabama, situated in Fractional section 19, Township 6 South, Range 2 East, and fractional Section 24, Township 6 South, Range 1 East, of the Dinsmoor Curvey of Baldwin County, Alabama, viz: Commence at the Southwest corner of said Section 19, running thence North 31 chains, thence North 27 degrees East 6 chains, thence North 8 degrees East 18.44 chains to a point in the center of the county road 1.78 chains South of the bridge over Big Gully, thence North 70 degrees West 20 feet for a point of beginning of land hereby conveyed; thence North 70 degrees West 10 chains, more or less, to Mobile Bay, thence North 8 degrees East 1.60 chains along the eastern shore of Mobile Bay, thence South 77 degrees East 10 chains more or less to the West boundary of the county road, and thence South 10 degrees west 2.85 chains to the point of beginning, the tract of land hereby conveyed containing 2.22 acres, more or less. I know this is the proper description of the land, because I have had it surveyed when I bought it.

2. John Weber and I bought the land from Alphonse Denton and his wife, Nettie Denton, December 15th., 1925. These deeds were recorded, and if returned by the Probate Court, I cannot find them.

At the time I purchased the land, Alphonse Denton was in the actual and peaceable possession of it. We claim to own it absolutely and in fee simple, and at the time and since

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we purchased it, we have been in possession of it, through tenants, claiming to own it absolutely and in fee simple and in equal parts, each of us owning an undivided one-half interest, and both of us owning it all. No suit is pending in any court to test our title to or interest in or possession of the land, and our title has not been disputed in any way. At the time we purchased the land, Denton had been in possession of the land claiming to own the same as long as I have known the land, and no one ever disputed the Denton title or right to possession. Their possession to the land was exclusive and adverse. The chain of record title as shown by the records of the Probate Court of Baldwin County, is as follows: The land was entered by Laurent Millaudon, a great many years ago and his claim was confirmed by Act of Congress, June 1st., 1858. Millaudon never did make a deed to the land in so far as I can find, which is recorded on the records of Baldwin County. Millaudon hasn't been heard of in Baldwin County for more than half a century. I don't know where he is, and can't find any trace of him. If living he is a non-resident of the State of Alabama and is over the age of twenty-one years. If he left any heirs at law, devisees, personal representatives or next of kin, they are now more than twentyone years of age, and they are non-residents of the State of Alabama. The following deeds appear on the records of Baldwin County, Alabama, viz: Warranty deed from William Davis and Eloise Davis, his wife, to George Juzang, dated February 16th., 1904, and recorded in Deed Book 7, N.S., page 83; warranty deed from George Juzang and William A Juzang, her husband, to Herman C. Koster, dated January 19th., 1905, and recorded in Deed Book 8, N.S., page 238; tax sale to Herman C. Koster, dated in 1910, shown by Tax Sales Book 3, page 12; deed from Herman C. Koster and Caroline M. Koster, his wife, to Alphonse Denton and Austin Denton, dated April 2nd., 1920, recorded in Deed Book 29, N.S., page 412; deed from Austin Denton and Belle Denton, his wife, to Alphonse Denton and Nettie Denton, dated January 12th., 1922, and recorded in Deed Book 31, N.S., page 567, warranty deed from Alphonse Denton and Nettie Denton, his wife, to complainants, dated December 15th., 1925, and recorded in Deed Book 37, N.S., page 603. All of said deeds were

recorded in the Probate Court of Baldwin County, Alabama. I haven't any of the said deeds, and don't know where to find them, except the deed from Denton to complainants, which, if returned by the Probate Court, is lost. The land is assessed to me on the assessment records of Baldwin County, Alabama, and for more than twenty years next preceding the filing of this bill of complaint, it was assessed to Denton, from whom I purchased it, and no one else has assessed the land, paid any taxes or claimed the same, within that time.

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- 3.- The land is included in what is known as the DeFerit Claim, as surveyed in 1830, and approved in 1835; this was confirmed to Laurent Millaudon by Act of Congress dated June 1st., 1858, as shown by 11 Statutes at Large, page 537. I have had abstracts of the records of Baldwin County made, and the title appears on said records as herein stated.
- 4.- I cannot find anything or anybody who knows anything, about Laurent Millaudon, and don't know whether he is living or dead, If he is dead and left any heirs, they are not in Baldwin County, and I have made diligent effort to learn their names and addresses and cannot do so. I have searched the records of Baldwin County, have inquired of all available persons who might have information as to the names, ages and whereabouts of Laurent Millaudon, his heirs, next of kin, and devisees and have caused inquiries to be made of persons living in the vicinity of the land, and from whom such information could probably be obtained, and no one can be found who knows or can give any information about them, or their addresses, or whether any of them are living or dead.
- against the lands, and against all persons, firms or corporations claiming said land or any part thereof, or any interest therein, or any lien or incumbrance thereon, for the purpose of establishing their title to, and interest in said lands, and clearing up all doubt and disputes concerning same, and they have duly recorded publication in the Baldwin Times, a newspaper published in Baldwin County, and have published the notice of lis pendens, as required by the laws of Alabama, more than sixty days ago. I attach hereto, and mark Exhibit B., Its pendens notice as filed.

Ward B Martin

STATE OF ALABAMA, COUNTY OF MOBILE.

I, Lelia C. Harris, under and by virtue of a commission issued out of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, in said entitled cause, therein pending, do hereby certify that I caused to come before me, at Room 805 of the Wan Antwerp Building, in said County and State, on the 19th. day of March, 1927, the witness, Ward B. Martin; that the said witness was known to me, and, after being duly sworn to speak the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, was examined by me, and testified as hereinbefore shown, his answer being reduced to writing by me as near as might be, in his own language, whereupon he subscribed his name to the same in my presence, after I first read same over to him.

I further certify that I am not of counsel nor of kin to any of the parties to said cause, nor in any manner interested in the result thereof. And I do further certify that Mr. B.F. McMillan, Jr., one of the Solicitors for the complainants, was present at the examination of the said witness and conducted the said examination.

Witness my hand, this, the 19th.day of March, 1927.

Lelia C. Harris-COMMISSIONER. Six Penong

CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA. EQUITY SIDE.

OCTOBER 16th., 1926.

\* 95 8°

WARD B. MARTIN AND JOHN WEBER VS. THE LAND HEREIN DESCRIBED AND LAURENT MILLAUDON, IF HE BE LIVING, AND IF HE BE DEAD, THEN AGAINST THE HEIRS, NEXT OF KIN AND DEVISEES OF THE SAID LAURENT MILLAUDON, AND AGAINST ANY AND ALL OTHER PERSONS, FIRMS OR CORPORATIONS CLAIMING ANY TITLE TO, INTEREST IN, LIEN OR INCUMBRANCE ON SAID LAND OR ANY PART THEREOF.

Notice is hereby given that Ward B.Wartin and John Weber, on the 16th. day of October, 1926, filed a bill of complaint in Equity, in the Circuit Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, caaiming to be in actual, peaceable possession owning and claiming to own all that certain parcel of land situated in the County of Exercise, State of Alabama, described as follows:

situated in Fractional Section nineteen, Township Six South, Range two Hast, and Fractional Section twenty-four Township Six South, Range One East of the Dinsmoor Survey of Baldwin County, Alabama, namely: Commence at the Southwest corner of Baid Section Nineteen, running thence North thirty one chains, thence North twenty seven degrees East six chains, thence North eight degrees east eighteen and forty-four hundredths chains to a point in the center of the County road one and seventy-eight hundredths chains South of the bridge over Big Gully, thence North seventy degrees West twenty feet for a point of beginning of land hereby \*\*\* thence North seventy degrees West ten chains more or less, to Mobile Bay, thence North eight degrees east one and sixty hundredths chains along the Nastern shore of Mobile Bay, thence South seventy seven degrees East ten chains more or less to the West boundary of the County road, and thence South ten degrees West two and eighty-five hundredths chains to the point of beginning, the tract of land bereby-conveyed containing two and twenty two hundredths acres, more or less.

Complainants allege in their bill of complaint that the title to said land stands on the records of the Probate Court of Baldwin County, Alabama, as follows:

This land is included in what is known as the DePerit Claims, as surveyed in the year 1830 and approved in the year 1835, which claims were confirmed to Laurent Millaudon by the Congress of the United States, by Act of June 1st., 1858, 11 Statutes at Large, page 537; and that complainants claim title to said land by deed from Alphonso Denton and

"Exhibit B."

Nettie Denton, his wife, by warranty deed dated December 15th., 1925, and recorded in Deed Book 37, N.S., page 603, of the Baldwin County Records.

Complainants further allege that they and those under whom they claim title have paid taxes on said property for the last ten years next preceding the filing of their said bill of complaint, and during said time they have been in actual, peaceable possession of said land, claiming to own the same, and during said time no one else has paid taxes thereon or been in possession thereof; and that their bill of complaint is filed for the purpose of establishing their title to and interest in said lands, and clearing up all doubts and disputes concerning same.

Witness my hand, this 16th. day of October, 1926.

T. W. Richerson, Register, Circuit Court, Baldwin Co., Alabama.

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McMillan & Grove, Mobile, Alabama, Solicitors.

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I. W. D. STAPPARENCE, John of earl Court transfer and tor A. W. D. STATEFORMAN, Johnson of early months of said County, do her by cariff, what the widde instrument o'clock and recorded in Record Book No. Page of A and this day of our of the state o

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No. 60 209	<b>Y</b>
THE STATE OF ALABAMA,	
Daleleini County.	
CIRCUIT COURT.	: <b>(</b>
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Wand 15 Marlin	
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The Land duringel	
an Complaint	
Defendant	
COMMISSION TO TAKE DEPOSITION ON INTERROGATORIES.	
COMMISSIONER:	
rule c Harrer	
WITNESSES:	
Ivanl B Marlin	

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TO THE HONORABLE JOHN D. LEIGH, JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA, IN EQUITY:

Your Orators, Ward B. Martin and John Weber,
bring this bill of complaint against that certain piece,
parcel or tract of land hereinafter described in paragraph later, and against his here fersons representation, next of Kin and decisional against any and all persons, firms or

corporations claiming any title to, interest in, lien or incumbrance on the said lands or any part thereof, and Orators respectfully show:

lst.- Each of your Orators is over the age of twenty-one years, and each is a resident of Baldwin County, Alabama, and the land against which this proceeding is brought is situated in Baldwin County, State of Alabama, within the jurisdiction of this Court, and is particularly described as follows:

The following described land in Baldwin County, Alabama, situated in Fractional Section Nineteen, Township Six South, Range Two East, and Fractional Section Twenty-four, Township Six South, Range One East, of the Dinsmoor Survey of Baldwin County, Alabama, namely: Commence at the Southwest corner of said Section Nineteen; running thence North thirty-one chains, thence North twenty-seven degrees east six chains, thence North eight degrees east eighteen and forty-four hundredths chains to a point in the center of the County road one and seventy-eight hundredths chains South of the bridge over Big Gully, thence North seventy degrees West twenty feet for a point of beginning of land hereby conty, thence North seventy degrees West ten chains more or less, to Mobile Bay, thence North eight degrees east one and sixty hundredths chains along the Eastern shore of Mobile Bay, thence South seventy-seven degrees East ten chains more or less to the West boundary of the County road, and thence South ten degrees West two and eighty-five hundredths chains to the point of beginning, the tract of land hereby conveyed containing two and twenty-two hundredths acres, more or less.

2nd.— Your Orators are in the actual and peaceable possession of the land hereinabove described, and claim to own the same absolutely and in fee simple, each of your Orators owning a one-half undivided interest therein, and both of them owning it all, and no suit is pending in any court to test orators' title to, interest in or right to the possession of said land. Your Orators acquired the legal title to said land by adverse possession thereof by themselves and those under whom your Orators claim, and

by the several deeds described as follows: Warranty deed from William Davis and Eloise Davis, his wife, to George Juzang, dated February 16th., 1904, and recorded in ... Deed Book 7, N.S., page 83, of the Baldwin County Records; Warranty deed from George Juzang and William A. Juzang, her husband, to Herman C. Koster, dated January 19th., 1905, and recorded in Deed Book 8, N.S., page 238, of the Baldwin County Records; Tax sale by the State of Alabama to Herman C. Koster, in 1910, Tax Sales Book 3, page 12 of the Baldwin County Records; deed from Herman C.Koster and Caroline M. Koster, his wife, to Alphonse Denton and Austin Denton, dated April 2nd., 1920, recorded in Deed Book 29, N.S., page 412, Baldwin County Records; Quitclaim deed from Austin Denton and Belle Denton, his wife, to Alphonse Denton and Nettie Denton, dated January 12th., 1922, and recorded in Deed Book 31, N.S., page 567, of the Baldwin County Records; Warranty deed from Alphonso Denton and Nettie Denton, his wife, to your Orators, dated December 15th., 1925, and recorded in Deed Book 37, N.S., page 603, of the Baldwin County Records. All of said deeds carry descriptions including the land described in this complaint. Orators and those under whom they claim have had absolute adverse possession of this land for more than ten years next preceding the filing of this bill of complaint, claiming to own the same, and for over twenty years have assessed and paid the taxes thereon:

3rd.- The title to the above described lands stands upon the records of Baldwin County as follows:

This land is included in what is known as the DeFerit Claims, as surveyed in the year 1830 and approved in the year 1835, which claims were confirmed to Laurent Millaudon, by the Congress of the United States, by Act of June 1st., 1858, 11 Statutes at Large, page 537, and your Orators aver that it does not appear from the record that Laurent Millaudon ever conveyed the land by recorded deed, but your Orators are informed and believe, and

upon such information and belief state that he did convey such land to one of the grantors in Orators' chain of title by deed which was lost or destroyed before being recorded, but if your Orators are mistaken in their belief and contention that he did convey such land to one of their grantors, his title has been lost by reason of Orators' adverse possession, but the non recordation of his said deed constitutes a cloud on your Orators' title.

4th. Your Orators further aver that they have made diligent effort to ascertain whether the said Laurent Millaudon be living or dead, and if he be dead whether or not he left any heirs and have made diligent effort to learn his address and the names and addresses of his heirs, next of kin or devisees, that in the prosecution of such efforts your Orators have had abstracts made, have searched the public records of Baldwin County, and have interviewed all available persons who might have information as to the names, ages and whereabouts of the said individuals, their heirs, next of kin and devisees, and Orators further aver that they have caused inquiry to be made of persons living in the vicinity of the land, from whom such information could probably be obtained, and no one could be found who knew or could give the information as to whether any of the said named defendants are living or dead, or who could give the addresses of any such defendants that might be living, or the names or addresses of the heirs, next of kin or devisees of such of them as might be dead, and they aver that they are unable to ascertain after diligent inquiry whether the said parties or any of them, if living, or their heirs, next of kin, or devisees of such of them as may be dead, or any other person, firm or corporation, save Orators, claim said land or any part thereof, or any interest in said land, or lien or incumbrances thereon. The avanse of diference or were corry.

5th .- Orators aver that they bring this their

bill of complaint against the land above described, and also against all persons, firms or corporations claiming said lands, or any part thereof, or any interest therein, or any lien or incumbrance thereon, for the purpose of establishing Orators' title to and their interest in said lands, and for the purpose of clearing up all doubts and disputes concerning sale.

#### PRAYER FOR PROCESS:

Wherefore, the premises considered, your Orators pray that the land hereinabove described, and all persons, firms and corporations claiming said land, or any part thereof, or any title thereto, interest therein, or lien or incumbrance thereon, be made parties defendant to this bill of complaint, and that due notice of these proceedings be given as required by law.

### PRAYER FOR RELIEF:

Orators pray that if any person, firm or corporation claims said land, or any part thereof, im any interest therein, or incumbrance thereon, he or they be required to set forth and specify such claim, title, interest, lien or incumbrance, and set forth how and by what instrument the same was derived or created, as required by the statute. Orators further pray that upon the final hearing of this cause, it will be ordered, adjudged and decreed that Orators, at the time of the filing of this bill of complaint had the legal title to the above described land and that no other person owns the same, or any part thereof, or has any interest, right or title therein or thereto, or any lien or incumbrance thereon, and Orators pray for such other, further, different and general relief as in equity and good conscience they may be entitled to receive in the premises.

And Orators will ever pray, etc.

Wellen From Solicitors FOR COMPLAINANTS.

FOOT NOTE: The respondents and each of them, are required to answer each of the allegations of the foregoing bill, but not under oath, answer under oath being hereby expressly waived.

COMPLEON FOR COMPLAINANTS.

STATE OF ALABAMA, COUNTY OF MOBILE.

Before me, Lelia C. Harris, a Notary Public in and for said State and County, personally appeared B.F.McMillan, Jr., who, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that he is of counsel for the complainants in the foregoing case and that he has read the said bill of complaint, that he is informed and believes, and upon such information and belief states that the contents thereof are true, and further says that all of the facts therein stated are true and correct as therein written.

Allo mio and

Sworn to and subscribed before me, this 16th. day of October, 1926.

Notary Public, Mobile County, Alabama.

George Bowen Cleveland ATTORNEY-AT-LAW Box 704 MOBILE, ALA.

August 13th, 1927.

Mr.T.M.Richardson,

Clerk &

Register,

Bay Minette, Ala.

Dear Sr:=

Please send me an item-

ized cost bill in the case of Hutchinson vs. Sibley, et al. It will be necessary in the sibmission of a motion tore-tax tel costs and in the Supreme Court if it is necessary to carry this matter that far.

In re Old Spanish Apple Fort Development Co., Inc., vs. Sibleys, et al, please let me knowken the case is at issue. I requested this in my letter yesterday, but perhaps you misunderstood it. The statute says that it shall be at issue sixty days after publication of the notice, - the first publication, or making of theorem, I presume. The re has been a publication three weeks and then four weeks again. I do not when the last notices were put in, nor what theorem reads that the case will be at issue.

252 St. Francis St.)

Yoursetruly, Burn Chefand

blancer & Robert & Rebey

Muslum Degan MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, Executor, etc., Complainant,

-VS-

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al, Defendants. IN EQUITY.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

# ANSWERS OF COMPLAINANT TO INTERROGATORIES PROPOUNDED BY DEFEN-DANTS ROBERT W. and CLARENCE E. SIBLEY:

to the first interrogatory he salth: I state in my bill that Robert W. and Clarence E. Sibley claim some interest in the property described in the bill because a deed made by their grandfather Cyrus Sibley, now deceased, some time prior to 1849 has not been put on record in Baldwin County, and in order to straighten out the title, not because I recognize that they have any claim.

SECOND and THIRD: I have understood that they were the grandchildren of Willard F. Sibley. I made them defendants because they were two of the twenty-seven children and grandchildren of Willard F. Sibley, deceased, to whom Cyrus Sibley made a deed for all unsold lots many years after these lots had been sold by him.

FOURTH: Yes, there are deeds on record in Baldwin County to lots 24 and 25 made long before the deed to Willard F. Sibley. There was also a deed to lot 22 made by Cyrus Sibley prior to 1849 either to a man named Gascoigne or to a man from whom Gascoigne bought. This deed was not put on record. However, both Gascoigne and those claiming under him went into possession during Cyrus Sibley's lifetime and with his full knowledge.

FIFTH: We had an examination made of the Probate Records of Baldwin County and did not find any deed from Cyrus Sibley to lot 22 though we find a complete and perfect chain of title from

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1849 down and men in that chain were in possession of lot 22 long before the deed to Willard F. Sibley.

We absolutely do not admit that Cyrus Sibley SIXTH: did not deed lot 22 except to Willard F. Sibley, but because this deed was not recorded we have filed this bill.

We made an investigation to find the SEVENTH: Yes. heirs of Willard F. Sibley in order to file this bill intelligently and secured our information large/from Willard F. Sibley's son Cyrus who married a Montrose lady and for many years spent his summers or a part of them at her home about three blocks from lot 22. If There had been any real claim in the Sibley heirs Mr. Cyrus L. Sibley would be entitled to one-third but knowing that these lots had been sold many years prior to the Civil War, he not only made no claim but offered to give a quit-claim deed and went to considerable trouble in assisting us to get the names and addresses of the various heirs of Willard F. Sibley. We did not take a deed from him because it was cheaper to name him as a defendant. not only has recognized the validity of my claim but has assisted us with information necessary to prepare the bill. I do not know anything about the intestacy of Willard F. or Robert S. Sibley and was not concerned about this.

Mr. Cyrus L. Sibley told my solicitors that Clarence E. and Robert W. Sibley were sons of Willard F. Sibley and knowing him to be a responsible man I did not doubt this.

On information I admit that Clarence and Robert Sibley are two of the eight children of Robert S. Sibley, deceased; that Willard F. Sibley had only three children of whom Robert Sibley was one, and that the said Robert Sibley wouldbe entitled to onethird of Willard Sibley's estate if he had any, the same as Cyrus L. Sibley, who has recognized that he and the other heirs have no claim.

TENTH: These lots are not in the Isabella Campbell Grant but title to them passed out of the United States by patent

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years ago.

ELEVENTH: These lots are not a part of the Campbell Grant but a United States patent issued during the original Cyrus Sibley's lifetime and recorded in Baldwin County.

TWEEFTH: Lots 24 and 25 were intensely cultivated from This was from long prior to the Civil War by my grandmother. long prior to the time I was born. A very fine garden was on this The pine trees that have grown up in late years have never The possession that my father, W. P. Hutchison, been turpentined. had from the time he bought lot 22 consisted of having a new fence put around the property tight enough to keep out trespassing hogs and using it as a pasture for cattle and chickens and also as a driveway to get to the home on lot 23. This possession existed from long before he bought lot 22 and when it was owned by Mr. Coleman and when it was owned by the Martins, with whose consent and that of Mr. Coleman we used the place for a driveway, and after my father bought it it was referred and used as a pasture up to the present time. Since about 1911 Mr. E. G. Rickarby, who bought our old home, has been in actual notorious and continuous possession of this lot by the express consent of my father, the only condition being that he would keep up the fences and not allow the place to be trespassed on. Mr. Rickarby has done this and/we did, drives through the place constantly and pastures his cattle thereon. When he is not at Montrose he has the place under the charge and control of a negro caretaker who lives on lot 23 within less than ten feet of the edge of this lot. Lots 24 and 25 were in the fenced and actual possession of my grandmother since many years prior to the Civil War and Mr. Rickarby has been looking after this too, though of late years he has not kept up the fences around these two lots.

THIRTEENTH: My father put up a tight wire fence between lots 21 and 22 within a few weeks after he bought it. This gence was built by T. O. Loftus and was kept up to the present time. Last year a woods fire burnt up one or two of the posts but the wires are still there. Mr. Rickarby did not straighten them up because they

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connected with his place next door which he has recently had tightly fenced and he allowed his mule to go from lot 22 to 21 through
this gap because he has no cultivation on the other place and there
is a tight fence around it that keeps the stock within the two lots.
There is very distinct evidence of this fence there today.

FOURTEENTH: I didnot pay anyone to put up these fences but my father did. He paid Mr. Loftus but I do not presume took any voucher or receipt for this payment as it was a cash transaction as all of his arrangements were.

FIFTEENTH: Since Mr. Rickarby has been in possession he has repaired these fences a number of times and about three years ago tore down the old wire and replaced it with new. This was under his understanding with my father and mother. There was no correspondence about this as the understanding was verbal. The relations between the Rickarbys and my family being very close and friendly.

SIXTRENTHE As stated before, lots 24 and 25 have been in the Hutchison family under fence and used as a home since many years prior to the Civil War. When I state that my father, who died last year, was only eleven years old when his mother moved there, you can get some idea of the time of the possession. He was seventy-nine years old when he died.

SEVENTEENTH: I do not know anything about deeds to lots 21 and 23. I have had no occasion to examine these. I attach to this a chain of title to lot 22. Lots 24 and 25 passed out of the Sibleys in two deeds -- book and page of record I also give in the exhibit to this answer.

of the lots -- first in the shape of a negro man who lived in a little cottage on lot 23 and cared for the whole four lots. The first was one Alex Taylor, later on Henry Brown. Subsequent to that a negro named William Wimberley lived on the place and he was there when Mr. Rickarby bought lot 23 and he stayed there many years.

The first two were employed by my father but I hage no correspondence or record as to the amounts paid them.

NINETERNIH: I do not know that my father specifically authorized Mr. Rickarby to post signs on lot 22 but as he had told me that he had put that lot completely in his care and charge, I know that this was authorized by my father. He was, however, expressly requested to forbid trespass on the lots and he did so and the signs were put up to this end. I do not know the wording of these notices but know that they were put up. I saw these signs tacked up there when my father, mother and I visited the place three years ago.

TWENTIETH: I do not know that my father ever had lot 22 surveyed as there was no necessity for it. It was under fence when we bought it and we put a new fence where the old fences were.

TWENTY\*FIRST: I am advised that any price offered for lot 22 is immaterial to the issues in this cause and I decline to answer accordingly.

TWENTY-SECOND: We do not claim title under the Camp-bell Grant.

TWENTY-THIRD: We did not lease any of these lots to any person but we did give Mr. Rickarby permission to use them for any purposes that he saw fit and he is still in possession for us under that permission with the full knowledge and consent of my mother and myself.

TWENTY-FOURTH: (The information given above is largely my personal knowledge but as to events happening before I was born I state from what was repeatedly told me by my parents. My answers are made by me personally but were prepared from information furnished by my mother who now lives in Mobile. I was born in the home on these lots but have been away from Mobile for a number of years. I now live at West Orange, New Jersey, but my place of

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business is in New York City. I was last in Montrose three years ago for several days but have been living away from the place for the last twenty years or more. The Mrs. Tracie Hutchison mentioned in the title is the widow of W. P. Hutchison and my mother.

TWENTY-FIFTH: I did not know until my lawyer told me recently that there was a reservation for a highway on the beach end of these lots. My father has had this fenced in, however, farther back than I can remember. We claim adverse possession to this strip wherever it is against everybody except the State and have asserted this possession ever since we had the lots. Our possession of this rightyof-way consists of having it fenced in as part of our enclosure and this fence is there today except that it was broken through by a storm in front of lot 22. The wire is broken in several panels of this fence but the fence is there and recently Mr. Rickarby, in order to keep his cattle in, put a second fence farther East just on the edge of the bluff instead of repairing the beach fence which he had done for a number of years prior to that time.

Miller Enthuous

Subscribed and sworn to before me

this the 2 pully of May, 1927.

Notary Public, New York County, New York.

# EXHIBIT "A":

### CHAIN OF TITLE

TO

# LOT TWENTY-TWO OF THE VILLAGE OF MONTROSE

## IN RESPONSE TO INTERROGATORY SEVENTEEN:

United States

to

Cyrus Sibley

Patent Dated October 10,1840 Rec. D.B. 37 N.S. page 53

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United States

to

Cyrus Sibley

Patent
Dated October 10, 1840
Rec. D. B. 31 N.S. page 678.

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C. W. Gascoine

to

James Martin

Warranty Deed Dated July 3, 1849 Rec. Book E, page 521

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James T. Martin

to

Josephine E. and Almira A. Martin

Warranty Deed Dated July 2, 1869 Rec. Book I, page 440

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Josephine E. and Almira A. Martin

to

Mary H. Stone

Warranty Deed Dated December 8, 1881 Rec. Book N, page 482

\*\*\*\*

Josephine E. and Almira A. Martin

Correction Deed
Dated September 3, 1892
Rec. Book S, pages 210-11

to

Mary H. Stone.

Mary H. Stone and husband

to

Phares Coleman

Warranty Deed Dated September 1, 1892 Rec. Book S. page 212

2733

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Phares Coleman

to

W. P. Hutchison

Warranty deed Dated March 5, 1901, Rec. Deed Book 3 N. S. p. 470

\*\*\*\*

Will of

W. P. Hutchison, deceased.

Rec. in Probate Records of Mobile County, naming M. R. Hutchison executor and trestee without bond.

Estate in process of administration.

\*\*\*\*

Lots 25 and 26 of Montrose were deeded by Cyrus Sibley and wife October 10, 1851, to Henry Holmes by deed recorded in Book "F", pages 181-2. Willard F. Sibley was one of the witnesses to this deed. See also Deed Book "F" pages 92 and 178.

IN EQUITY
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, Executor, etc., Complainant,

-vs- \*

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al, Respondent.

COMPLAINANT'S ANSWERS TO DEFENDANT'S INTERROGA-TOR IES.

Foled May 23/927 Tor Reisenen Region

> RICKARBY, BEEBE & COLEY, SOLICITORS FOR COMPL'T

MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, as executor, etc., Complainant,

-VS-

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al, Defendant. IN EQUITY
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
MOBILE COUNTY, ALABAMA.

Comes Complainant and shows to the Court that Defendants Clarence E. Sibley and Robert E. Sibley have failed to answer the interrogatories propounded to them by Complainant within sixty days from the time notice of said interrogatories was served upon their counsel of record.

WHEREFORE, Complainant now moves for a decree pro confesso against said defendants because of such failure.

Solicitors for Complainant.

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Miller Reese Hutcheson, as Executor and Trustee,) No. vs. :-In the Circuit Court } of Baldwin Co., Ala. Cyrus L. Sibley, et al, defendants. Equity Side.

Answer of Clarence E. and Wesley Sibley.

Comes the defendant Clarence E. Sibley and Wesley Sibley and seperately and severally answer the bill of complaint filed herein, as fol-lows, not waivingtheir demurrers heretofore filed ,but relying on the earse.

In answer to paragraph one they say they have no personal knowledge of the statements made therein and deny the same and ask full proof.

In answer to paragraph two, they say they presume the persons mentioned are defendants as the complainant has made them so.

In answer to paragraph three, they say that they deny the statements

made therein.

In answer to paragraph four, they say it is true that they have an interest in lands in Montrose, and in the land in controversy.

In answer to paragraph five, they know of no suit pending against

them relative to lands in Montrose, Alabama, and have brought none.

In answer to paragraph xxx five they further say that they claim an interest in said lands as descendents of Willard F. Sibley, to whom a deed was made by Cyrus Sibley, his father. That Willard F. Sibley is a had three children, and that they are children of one of these, Robert Sibley, deceased. That the said Robert represented one third and left eight children. Therefore these defendants are entitled to a war sixth If mistaken in this, they claim an interest as the 2/8 interest. great-grandchildren of Cyrus Sibley, deceased.

And now having fully answered, they are that they be dismissed

with costs.

& Bowen Chroland Attorney for defendants Clarence E. and Wesley R . Sibley.

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ion duteminson, Complainant, )

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:- In the Circuit Court of Balawin Co., Ala

Gyrus L. Sibley, et al, Dft.

### Exceptions to Inta.

Comes the defendants Clarence A. Sibley and Rowert Wesley Sibley and except to the interrogatories like to them by the complainant, and for /goundsor exception say:

1st. That they are premature :

2nd. That they are addressed to two of the defendants jointly, and one may know things in response which the other dearnot, and they cannot, therefore, answer jointly.

From what land he is suing for, and inform defendants, not have defendants informations him.

4th. They except to question I four for the same reason.

5. Theyexdept to questions 5,6,7 and 3 because the information desired sehould be within the personal knowledge of complainant.

6. They except to nine and ten for the same reason

7. They except to question nineteen because what Gyrus L. Sibley knows or has done is a matter for him to testify to, not these defendants.

They except to question 13 for the same reason and because innaterial to defendants rights whether anyone clise disputed complainant's claims, or those of the "Mutchinson's" or not, and because it does not say what Mutchinsons are referred to.

They execpt to all the questions separately as immaterial, incomcetent and irrelevant, not calling for material prestitiony in this case.

Attories for C.E. and R.N.

Sibley.

Hirlching Filed Dec 14/926 M. R. HUTCHISON, EXECUTOR and TRUSTEE, )

COMP LAINANT,

;-Inthe Circuit Court of Baldwin6

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, ET AL., DEFENDANT.

#### Additional Demurrers.

Comes the defendants C.E. Sibley and Robert QWesley Sibley and further demur to the bill of complaint because of indefinite description of the land the title to which is sought to be cleared, in as much as certain lots in certain block in Montrose, Alabama as per Yuille's map, but it does not state that the map is of record, or where it can be found, or referred to, nor is the said map, or acopy thereof, made an exhibit to the bill of complaint.

> Attorney for defendants C.E. Sibley and Robert Wesley Sibley.

Filed Jan 22/827 Ill Rectureon Register RECORDED

Huchim

Sibley

MILLER REESE HUTCHISON,

Executor, etc.,

Complainant,

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

-vs
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al,

Defendants.

Comes LOUIS SIBLEY, RICHARD SIBLEY, WILLARD SIBLEY, LESLIE SIBLEY, HAROLD SIBLEY, JACK SIBLEY, CLARA SIBLEY, BONNIE SIBLEY, EMMETT SIBLEY, LOMAR SIBLEY, RUTH SIBLEY and ROBERT LEE SIBLEY, infant defendants in the above entitled cause, by WHHHHMALL, their guardian ad litem, and for answer to the bill of complaint, says:

FIRST: Said defendants deny all of the allegations contained in said bill and demand strict proof thereof.

Juardian ad Litem for above named minors.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BAIDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

HUTCHISON,

VS

SIBLEY

ANSWER OF GUARDIAN AD LITEM

Filed Nov16/926 IN Richman Register

RECORDED

MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, as executor of and Trustee under the will of William P. Hutchison, deceased,

-VS-

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al.

STATE OF ALABAMA COUNTY OF MOBILE

Before me, the undersigned Notary, personally appeared this day Elliott G. Rickerby who being sworn says that he is of counsel for the complainant in the above cause that since said bill was filed he has learned that Robert L. Sibley, one of the defendants, a minor over the age of twenty years, is a non-resident of the State of Alabama, and now a private in the service of the U. S. Army at Fort D. A. Russell, Wyoming. That he has a resident guardian in the State of Alabama in Mrs. E. J. Seifert residing in the City of Mobile. Wherefore he prays that summons be had upon Robert L. Sibley by registered mail and by personal  $\lambda$ service upon Mrs. E. J. Seifert as guardian. That affiant makes this affidavit in lieu of complainant who is a non-resident of the State of Alabama and not personally acquainted with the facts.

Elliste G. Ringland

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the eleventh day of September, Nineteen Hundred and Twenty-six.

Frances E. Stevens

Notary Public, Mobile County, Alabama.

Miles Reese Hutelinone VS Cyrun L Erbling

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> > RECORDED,

Miller Reese Hutchison, Ex.&c.)

Complainant,
vs. :-In the Circuit Court of Baldwin Co., Ala.

Cyrus L. Sibley, et al, Dfts. )

Comes the defendants Clarence E. and N.R. Sibley and move to dismiss the bill of complaint because the complainant has failed to answer fully without evasion the questions propounded to him by them within the time prescribed by the Register.

They say he has evaded questions and failed to answer as follows, towit:-

In answer to interrogatory one he fails to specify what right specifically he says they claimed and from what source they he learned of it.

He failed to answer interrogatory seven and say whether he admitted that Willard F. Sibley and Robert S. Sibley died intestate.

Also as to whether he learned by investigation that the defendants mentioned are the heirs at law of Willard F. Sibley, deceased.

Int. 8. He was asked whether or not he admitted that the defendants Clarence E. and Robert W. Sibley, (W.R. Sibley), were the heirs at law of Willard F. Sibley and children of Willard F. Sibley's son, Robert S. Sibley. He evaded admitting or derying this, by saying that Cyrus L. Sibley said they were and he did not doubt it because he belived Cyrus L. Sibley to be a responsible man, thus evading admitting or denying it and putting the interrog ators to proof.

Int. 9. He evades answering whether he admits or denies that the two defendants filing these interrogatories would be entitled to an eighth of the one third of Robx Willard F. Sibley, son of Cyrus Sibeley.

Int. 10. He does not answer by what instrument, if any, the title passed out of the government and when.

Int.12. He fails to say whether the land covered by lot 22 was susceptible to cultivation, whether the trees on it were ever turnent ined, whether it was ever turnentimed cultivated, fails to gives dates of cultivation of any of the three lots, and when and in what way, and bey whom, and durings what periods possession was had of the three lots, etc.

Int.15. He fails to state whether he/or hisfather ever gave specific directions to E.G.Rickarby to fence, or repair, the fence to any partof the property.

Int.16.He fails to give dates lots 24 and 25 were used as a home, etc. int. 17.He fails to state whether he had the  $\chi$ 

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Probate records. He fails to give the chain of title to lots 24 and 25. He fails to give the description in the deeds in the chain of title to lot 22.

Int.18. He fails to give the periods-refers to care take rsor let 23. Int.#9.20.Does not state whether he had lot 22 surveyed, or theother two.

Int. 21. He refuses to amswer this.

Int. 28. He stated that the am werswere prepared from information received from his mother who lived in Mobile, but fails to attach the instructions and information sent him by her, nor say directly whether it was sent by her, or by whom it wassent.

Int. 25. (25). He deempt state whether hed a ms title to the 100 ft. reservation for a highway, under a written instrume t, or not, or a tach copies.

Tary for C.S. U.R. Silley

MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, as Executor, etc., Complainant,

-VS -

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al, Respondents. IN EQUITY
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
BAIDWIN COUNTY, AIABAMA.

At the hearing of this cause the following note of evidence was taken, namely:

### For Complainant:

- 1: Depositions of Mrs. Tracy E. Hutchison, Thomas
  O. Loftus and Elliott G. Rickarby.
  - 2: Decree pro confesso.
  - 3: Certificate of Thomas W. Richerson, Esq.

For Respondents:

Tullecturion Register.

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IN EQUITY 16

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BAIDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, as executor, etc., Complainant,

-VS-

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al. Respondents.

NOTE OF EVIDENCE.

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MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, as executor, etc, Complainant,

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-VS-

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al, Defendant. IN EQUITY

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

Comes the Complainant and for reply to the exceptions filed by defendants Clarence E. Sibley and Robert E. Sibley to the interrogatories propounded by Complainant to said defendants, says:

FIRST: To the first exception that said interrogatories are premature, that Code Section 7764 does not limit the time of filing interrogatories to any particular stage of litigation.

SECOND: To the second objection Complainant shows that the interrogatories are not addressed to the defendants jointly and even if so do not limit the ability of each defendant to answer as to facts in his own knowledge.

THIRD: As to the remaining exceptions Code Section L. NOR State 7772 as interpreted by the opinion in the case of Blank vs. Blank, 91 Ala. 112, holds that with the one exception of subjecting defendant to criminal prosecution, all pertenant questions must be answered. We submit that each interrogatory is pertenant to the issues in this cause and should be answered:

Interrogatories Two to Four inclusive are intended to test the knowledge of defendants as to the condition and identity of the land in suit.

Interrogatories Five to Eight inclusive, and interrogatory Eleven, are intended to elicit the fact that said lands have been under fence and in the active notorious possession of Complainant and his agents for the past twenty-five years.

Interrogatories Nine, Ten and Fourteen seek to disclose that the notorious possession of Complainant's parents, the former owners of the property, has never been disputed by any of the Sibley heirs, or their title questioned in any way.

Interrogatory Twelve seeks to develop the fact that an uncle of defendants interested to a far greater degree has known and recognized the claim of Complainant and his predecessors in title, with daily knowledge and without objection.

Complainant respectfully submits that all interrogatories should be answered fully, defendants having the right to reserve proper objection to the admission of any reply by suitable exception and by objection when said interrogatories are offered in evidence.

Rustarly Beeler dealey

Solicitors for Complainant.

I hereby certify that a copy of the foregoing exceptions was mailed to George B. Cleveland, Esq., December 24th, 1926.

Ellist & Rindary.

M. R. HUTCHISON, Compt.

VS

CYRUS L. SIBLEY et al Defts.

REPLY TO DEFENDANTS' EXCEPTIONS TO COMPLAINANT'S INTERROGATORIES.

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RICKARBY, BEEBE & COLEY. Solicitors.

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Miller Reese Hutcheson, Complainant, )
Executor and Trustee,

Cyrus L. Sibley, et al, Defendants.

:-Circuit Court Baldwin Co., lants. In Equity.

Answers to Interrogatories Propounded to

Clarence E. Sibley and Robert Westley Sibley by Complainant.

1. In answer to int. one, they say: that they are grandchildren of Willard F. Sibley, deceased, who was a son of Cyrus Sibley. We claim our divisable interest as children of a son of Willard F. Sibley, deceased, whose name was Robert Sibley. There were three children of Willard F. Sibley. Cyrus L. Sibley is one, now living. Another, Willard, is dead, but left heirs. We claim 2/8 of one third, as Robert Sibley left eight children. In case the proof should show that Cyrus Sibley did not convey to Willard F. Sibley, we claim an interest as great-grandchildren of Cyrus Sibley. 2. In answer to int. 2. they say: We have no other description of the hand which the complainant seeks to have cleared than that given by the complainant in his bill of complaint. He refers to three lots, as per a certain map made by Yuille, yet gives no place where the map is recorded or can be examined, and the son of the said Yuille has stated to our attorney that it is not is of record.

3. \*\*Notice to the state of the any land in montrose, hever having been there. Clarence is. Sibley says he was at Montrose was and his uncle Willard. Sibley pointed to a piece of land and said by rights that piece of land belongs to our grandfather there, but he cannot now identify the land. He does not know whither this is the land sought to be described in complainant's bill or not.

4. In answer to int. four they refer to the answer to int. 3 for answer.

5. In answer to int. six they refer to the answer to int. 3 for answer. 6. In answer to int. six they refer to the answer to int.3 for answer.
7. In answer to int.7, as well as interrogatories 4,5 and 6, that they have no personal knowledge of the matters therein mentioned.
8. In answer to int.8 they say they have no personal knowledge of the matters inquired about. 9. In answer to interrogatories 9,10,11, they say that they have no personal knowledge of the matter referred to therein.
10. In answer to int. 12, wesley Sibley says he has no knowledge of the matters therein inquired about Clarence E. Sibley has no knowledge, personally, of the matters inquired about therein. 11. Wesley Sibley says he has no personal information relative to the matters inquired about in int.13. Clarence E. Sibley says that on the occasion that Willard Sibley pointed out some piece of land as by rights belonging to the heirs - he said something about fighting for it if he had the money to do so with. 12. In reply to int. 14, they say that their attorney when looking up the Sibley lands at their request in the Probate Court of Baldwin Co., Alz.. found a deed on record from Cyrus Sibley to Willard F. Sibley conveying all lots then unsold north of Graham St. in Montrose. That this was not long be fore this suit was filed, possibly a month or so. This is in deed book No. 1. 1. 504 They are also informed that Cyrus Sibley owned the land where Montrose is situated. They refer to the Probate Court records, where copies of all deeds may be found, and copies obtained by paying the fees required by law to be paid. Further answering they say that they have never lived in Baldwin Co. and live in Mobile county, and are largely dependenten others

for information relative to lands in which they are interested through inheritance from their father, and as descendents of Cyrus, Willard F. and

Rabert Sibley, and are now seeking information about the same.

Tiend Felowary 25 th 1927.

TON Ricewood

Registers

STATE OF ALABAMA
COUNTY OF MOBILE

Before me, the undersigned Notary, personally appeared this day Elliott G. Rickarby who says that he is of counsel for Complainant in the above entitled cause; that Complainant is now residing in the City of New York and is not accessible for the purpose of making this affidavit; that affiant in his behalf states that the information sought to be elicited by the foregoing interrogatories, if true, will be material evidence for Complainant.

Ceine & ain Larly

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the /3 day of Movember, 1926.

Notary Public, Mobile County, Alabama.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
BAIDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

M. R. HUTCHISON, Executor, etc.,

Complainant,

-VS-

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al, Defendants.

INTERROGATORIES PROPOUNDED BY COMPLAINANT TO RESPON-DENTS CLARENCE E. SIBLEY and ROBERT W. SIBLEY.

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RICKARBY, BEEBE &

RICKARBY, BEEBE & COLEY, Solicitors for Remplainant MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, Executor, etc., Complainant,

-VS-

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al, Defendants.

IN EQUITY

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

BAIDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

## INTERROGATORIES PROPOUNDED BY COMPLAINANT TO DEFENDANTS CLARENCE E. SIBLEY and ROBERT WESTLEY SIBLEY:

- l: Please state your relationship to the late Willard F. Sibley, and also what interest, if any, you claim in the land described in the bill.
- 2: State just where this land is, giving its boundaries, and general description of the same.
- 3: When did you last see it and how many times have you seen it in the last twenty years?
- 4: Do you know this land from your own personal observation or only from what has been told you?
- 5: If you say you know it by personal inspection, state whether or not it is under fence, and, if so, how long it has been under fence.
- 6: If you are acquainted with the land and its condition for the past twenty years, please state if it is not a fact that this land has been under fence since 1901 and the active personal possession of the late W. P. Hutchison and his wife, Mrs. Tracy E. Hutchison, during the time that they lived in the house adjoining these lots between 1901 to about 1912.
- 7: Is it not a fact that Mr. and Mrs. Hutchison lived on the property of which these lots are a part during the summer months and for a time during the winter, and that when not present the property was left in charge of a caretaker?

- 8: Is it also not a fact that from 1911 up to the present day this property has been in the care and custody of Mr. E. G. Rickarby who owns the house formerly owned by the Hutchison's and who has been actively using this land, driving through it and pasturing his cow thereon, and that when Mr. Rickarby and his family do not occupy the premises themselves that they left a caretaker on the premises whose duty it was, and who did warn away all trespassers from these lands as well as those owned by Mr. Rickarby?
- 9: State what acts of possession you or those under whom you claim have asserted to said lands at any time since 1865.
- 10: Were any of these acts brought to the notice and attention of Mr. and Mrs. Hutchison, their caretaker, Mr. Ricker-by, or his caretaker, and, if so, give times, places and nature of such notice?
- 11: Is it not a fact that the ownership of the Hutchisons to this land has never been questioned or disputed for the past twenty-five years, and that Mr. Hutchison's possession either personally, by his caretaker, or by Mr. Rickarby in his behalf, has been open, notorious, continuous and undisputed for this period of time?
- 12: Is it not a fact that your Uncle, Mr. Cyrus L. Sibley, has a home at Montrose, a short distance from these lands, and has personally known of the Hutchisons' possession for the last twenty-five years, being through the summer months thrown in almost daily contact with the Hutchisons and knowing that they lived on and claimed the property?
- 13: Has he or any other of the Sibleys ever sought or attempted to dispute the Hutchisons' possession to your knowledge?
- 14: Please set out in full all grounds upon which you claim an interest in the lands in question, attaching copies of all documents upon which you rely.

Ois Lang Beau rholey.
Solicitons for Complainant.

Law Offices

### PICKARBY, BEEBE & COLEY 903-4-5 VAN ANTWERP BUILDING MOBILE, ALA.

E.G.RICKARBY W.C.BEEBE D.R.COLEY, JR. H.M.HALL

September 28, 1926.

T. W. Richerson, Esq., Register Circuit Court, Bay Minette, Alabama.

Dear Sir:

ment of costs in this case please bear in mind that the Sheriff of Mobile County by papers received direct from your office has made service of eleven subpoenas for which he is entitled to \$5.50. We call your attention to this in order that these fees may not be paid to the Sheriff of Baldwin County.

We presume that returns will reach you from the office of the Mobile Sheriff about the same time as this.

Yours very truly,

RICKARBY, BEEBE & COLEY,

By Ringaly

R:S

c.c. to Capt. Leon Schwarz.

# LAW OFFICES RICKARBY, BEEBE & COLEY 903-4-5 VAN ANTWERP BUILDING MOBILE, ALA.

E.G.RICKARBY W.C.BEEBE D.R.COLEY, JR. H.M.HALL

August 20, 1926.

T. W. Richerson, Esq., Register, Circuit Court, Bay Minette, Alabama.

Dear Sir:

With this we hand you a bill to quiet title brought by Mr. M. R. Hutchison against the heirs of Cyrus L. Sibley, et al, more than half of whom are minors.

The subpoenas for the adult defendants living in this County, and for the minors down here, you might send direct to us so that we can put the proper addresses on them before delivering them to the Sheriff. The remainder of the defendants live at Canoe with the exception of two at the Orphans Home in Talladega County, and they are under fourteen. We would be glad if you would get these subpoenas issued as soon as possible as the sooner this title is cleared up the sooner there will be some money to pay a fairly sizable cost bill to a hardworking and more or less deserving Register, and a small modicum to his friends.

Yours very truly,
RICKARBY, BEEBE & COLEY,
By Calcal

R:S

Enc.

LAW OFFICES

RICKARBY, BEEBE & COLEY

903-4-5 VAN ANTWERP BUILDING

MOBILE, ALA.

E.G.RICKARBY W.C.BEEBE D.R.COLEY, JR. H.M.HALL

July 23, 1927.

T. W. Richerson, Esq., Bay Minette, Alabama.

Dear Tom:

HUTCHISON vs. SIBLEY: With this I am sending you decree signed by Judge Leigh last Thursday and copy of letter written him containing the decree which he asked me to write up awaiting submission of the case and overruling respondents' motion to dismiss. This decree should be filed as of June 10th, thereby straightening out the record and the only matter about which Judge Leigh had any question. You will remember that June 10th was the date that he was in Bay Minette in the habeas corpus matter and I did not get up there in time to see him before he left.

I also send the remaining papers of the Court file under separate cover, and two copies of the decree -- one to be filed in the Probate Court, one to be sent to Mr. Cleveland under the Judge's instructions and one to be returned to me when certified.

Yours very truly

R:S

Enc.

Beiser G. Rindary

Law Offices Rickarby, Beebe & Coley

903-4-5 Van Antwerp Building Mobile, Ala.

E.G.RICKARBY W.C.BEEBE D.R.COLEY, JR. H.M.HALL

September 11, 1926.

Thomas W. Richerson, Esq., Bay Minette, Alabama.

Dear Sir:

Robert L. Sibley, one of the defendants named, is a non-resident.

Reing a minor notice will have to be served upon him and upon his guardian, Mrs. E. J. Seifert of Moderne, make out subpoena for the latter and send it to us in Mobile and get service, upon Private Robert L. Sibley, Troop C, 13th Calvary, Fort D. A. Russell, Wyoming."

As we recollect, you have an extra copy of the bill which can be used for this purpose. If not, we will be glad to have one made for you as we understand that you are rather busy at this period.

If you will expedite these matters your efforts in this will be cordially appreciated by

Yours very truly, RICKARBY, BEEBE & COLEY,

By Rin, Carly.

R:S

MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, as executor, etc., Complainant,

~ V 8-

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al. Defendant. IN EQUITY
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
MOBILE COUNTY, ALABAMA.

Comes Complainant and shows to the Court that Defendants Clarence E. Sibley and Robert E. Sibley have failed to answer the interrogatories propounded to them by Complainant within sixty days from the time notice of said interrogatories was served upon their counsel of record.

WHEREFORE, Complainent now moves for a decree pro confesso against said defendants because of such failure.

Solicitors for Complainant.

In R stutching Bonger: Dr Bay muite Byrus L Sibley of al This cause coming on to be heard upon the exceptions of defindents belavence & Sibly and Rober W Sibley to interrogations propounded to them by compeniation and same having been duly considered and the lavur being of the opinion that same are not well lasten: It is therefore Ordered aggreged and Decreed that def said Defendants several exceptions to said interrogatories be and the same are here. by over ruled. The paid Defendants are hereby ordered to fully answer para interrogatoris within fafteen (10) days from this date In Term Imm at Bay muche this fourteenth day of & ebruary 1927. John D. Teigh Juage

Stilchenn Sally of a to interrogations Felex in ofen cour only 14, 19 2) Two Reserves.

MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, as Executor, etc Complainant,

-VS-

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al, Respondents. IN EQUITY
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

This cause coming on to be heard upon the motion of respondents Clarence E. and Robert W. Sibley to dismiss the bill for failure of complainant to fally answer interrogatories propounded to him, and upon complainant's motion for an order of submission, and same being dul considered;

IT IS THEREFORE ADJUDGED and DECREED that the motion of respondents Clarence E. and Robert W. Sibley to dismiss the bill be and the same is hereby dismissed.

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that said cause be now submitted for decree but that decision thereon be reserved until July 21, 1927, within which time respondents may file such legal evidence as they deem proper, same to be considered by the Court in rendering its decree.

DONE at Bay Minette this the tenth day of June, Mineteen Hundred and Twenty-seven.

Tind ora-

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, as Executor, etc., Complainant,

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

-VS-

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al, Respondents.

ORDER OVERHULING MOTION TO DISMISS and FOR SUBMISSION.

Received in Office of Rigisters
Ond Filed Jacky 3 th 1927,
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Regist

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MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, Executor, etc.; Complainant,

-T5-

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al, Respondents. IN EQUITY

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

This cause coming on to be heard upon the demurrers of the Respondents Clarence E. Sibley and Robert Wesley Sibley to the bill submitted, and same having been duly considered, and upon such consideration the Court being of the opinion that same are not well taken:

It is therefore ORDERED, AD JUDGED and DEGREED that Respendents' several demurrers to the bill be and the same are hereby overruled.

It is further ordered that Respondents Clarence Sibley and Robert Wesley Sibley be allowed ten days from the filing of this decree in which to file answer to the bill.

In Term Time at Day Minette this third day of December.

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Judge.

Whitchism, Sililey, stal \* Deever our ruding Dereserven .

MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, executor, etc.

Complainant,

-VS-

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al, Defendant. IN EQUITY

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

STATE OF ALABAMA COUNTY OF MOBILE

Before me, the undersigned Notary, personally appeared this day Elliott G. Rickarby, who, being sworn, says that he is of counsel for Complainant in the above styled cause; that he makes this affidavit in lieu of Complainant, who is now a nonresident of the State of Alabama, and not personally acquainted That affiant is reliably informed and upon such with the facts. information states that of the defendants named in the bill heretofore filed in this cause, Louis Sibley, Richard Sibley and Willard Sibley are minors over the age of fourteen years residing with their mother, Mattie Sibley, at Canoe, Alabama. That Leslie Sibley and Harold Sibley are minors over the age of fourteen years, both of whose parents are dead. That Robert Lee Sibley, Jack Sibley, Clara Sibley and Bonnie Sibley are minors under the age of fourteen residing with their mother, Mattie Sibley, at Canoe, Alabama. That Emmett Sibley and Lomers Sibley are minors under the age of fourteen, both of whose parentx are dead, residing at the Presbyterian Orphans Home at Talladega, Alabama, in the care and custedy of the Matron of said Home. That Ruth Sibley, a minor under the age of fourteen, both of whose parents are dead, resides with her brother Claud Sibley at 505 South Hamilton Street in the City of Mobile, and that this affidavit is made to indicate the mode of service of process required because of the minority of the named defendants.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 21st day of August, 1926.

4xan G. Stevens

slabama. public. Mobile County, Notary

Elliott & Dinary

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IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

executor, etc., MITTER REESE HOLCHISON'

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, Defendant.

OR CERTAIN OF DEFENDANTS ATTROUTH OF 2A TIVALITY

**GEONADER** 

Solicitors for Complainants RICKARBY, BEEBE & COLEY, MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, Executor, etc.; Complainant,

-VS-

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al, Respondents. IN EQUITY

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

This cause coming on to be heard upon the demurrers of the Respondents Clarence E. Sibley and Robert Wesley Sibley to the bill submitted, and same having been duly considered, and upon such consideration the Court being of the opinion that same are not well taken:

It is therefore ORDERED, AD JUDGED and DECREED that Respondents' several demurrers to the bill be and the same are hereby overruled.

It is further ordered that Respondents Clarence Sibley and Robert Wesley Sibley be allowed ten days from the filing of this decree in which to file answer to the bill.

In Term Time at Bay Minette this third day of December,

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## The State of Alabama, Manual County

MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, executor, et al,

Complainant s

No.

VS

BALDWIN

### Circuit Court of Mobile County

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al

Defendant

IN EQUITY.

The Complainants

requests the oral examination of the following named witnesses

 $_{
m on}$  their

behalf, viz.;

Mrs. Annie M. Randall, Thomas O. Loftus, Mrs. Tracey E. Hutchison E. G. Rickarby.

The girst two of

said witnesses reside in the County of Baldwin and the two last witnesses reside in the City of Mobile.

State of Alabama.

Frances E. Stevens, who resides in Mobile, Alabama, is

is suggested as a suitable person to be appointed Commissioner to take deposition s of said witnesses on such oral examination

Solicitor for Complainant.

		County		*	4	EXAMINATION.	8262. 7	Register.	
*	No.	Court of Mobile	Mobile. Alabama IN EQIUTY	1 the Manier	vs.	DEMAND FOR ORAL EXAM	2	Malu	
		Circuit C		gr O	e e e	DEMAND	Filed		

I hereby certify that on February 26th, 1927, a copy of the foregoing application for oral examination was sent to George B. Cleveland, Esq., Solicitor for respondents Clarence E. Sibley and Wesley Sibley, addressed to Cleveland at his Post Office address, N. W. corner St. Francis Street and Joachim, Mobile, Alabama.

Of Counsel for Complainant.

Notive of the foregoing applications feceived February 28th, 1927.

Guardian ad litem for the Minor Defendants.

MILLER REESE HUTCHIS ON, Executor, etc., Complainant,

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\_VS-

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al, Defendants. IN EQUITY
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

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#### COMPLAINANT'S BRIEF IN ANSWER TO RESPONDENTS' MOTION TO DISMISS BILL FOR FAILURE TO ANSWER INTERROGATORIES:

The Complainant says that Respondents' objections to his answers to interrogatories propounded to him are not well taken, and for specific reply to each objection, says:

ant is not called on to state the nature of adverse claims to his title. The purpose of the bill is to require claimants to state their claims, if any there be. In fact, in the answer to the interrogatory complainant states that they have no valid claim.

TO ANSWER TO SEVENTH IN TERROGATORY: He says that he does not admit the intestacy of W. F. and R. S. Sibley because he does not know. He answers what he thinks to be the facts in the answer to the next interrogatory.

TO ANSWER TO EXCHTH INTERROGATORY: In this Complainant gives both the source and extent of his information.

TO ANSWER TO NINTH INTERROGATORY: Each question is here answered categorically and almost in the terms of the question. If Complainant made any mistake it was due to his belief that Respondents could work a calculation in simple fractions.

TO ANSWER TO TENTH INTERROGATORY: Complainant in exact legal language states that title passed out of the United States by patent. He has a right to presume that Respondents' counsel knows what a patent is. He also sets out the dates of the patents in the chain of title.

TO ANSWER TO TWELFTH INTERROGATORY: Every question is answered except as to whether land is susceptible to cultivation and covers this by stating that Lot Twenty-two was always used as a pasture.

TO ANSWER TO FIFTEENEH INTERROGATORY: This question is fully answered.

TO ANSWER TO SIXTEENTH DATERROGATORY: This does not give exact dates but gives data from which date can readily be approximated.

TO ANSWER TO SEVENTEENTH INTERROGATORY: Complainant gives place of record of deeds by which title to Lots 24 and 25 passed out of the Sibleys. Further history of these lots is irrelevant and immaterial. He states that the description in chain of title to the third lot is as "Lot 22."

TO ANSWERS TO EIGHTEENTH INTERROGATORY: This information is given to the best of complainant's knowledge and states that caretakers have always been on the lots during his father's ownership beginning prior to Complainant's birth.

TO ANSWERS TO TWENTIETH INTERROGATORY: Complainant answers specifically as to Lot 22. Cannot answer as to the others which were bought many years before his birth.

TO ANSWER TO TWENTY-FIRST INTERROGATORY: Complainant by advice of counsel refuses to answer this interrogatory as irrelevant and impertinent by authority of case of "Montgomery L & T. Co. vs. Harris, 197 Ala. p. 358."

TO ANSWER TO TWENTY-FOWRTH INTERROGATORY: Complainant has answered this fully, stating that his answers are made from personal knowledge except as to those things before his birth and of ten told him by his mother, who has also paid him a visit since this litigation started and with whom he discussed the matter thoroughly.

TO ANSWER TO TWENTY-FIFTH INTERROGATORY: Complainant has fully stated the nature of his claim to the road reservation nor does the question call for a more specific answer.

In conclusion, Complainant submits that the purpose of interrogatories addressed by one party to the other is to secure facts known to the party addressed to enable the interrogator to better prepare his case or defense, and not to compel the party addressed to make specific investigations as to matters known best to the interrogator. Further, that the spirit of the statute is Complied with even where a specific question is not answered directly if the inquired information is given elsewhere in answers to other questions.

We respectfully submit that Complainant has endeavored to fully and frankly answer all pertinent questions addressed to him and the fullness of his answers stand favorable comparison to the answers made by respondents to inquiries addressed to them, to which the attention of the Court is hereby directed.

Respectfully submitted,

Solicitors for Complainant,

# The State of Alabama, Baldwin County.

CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, IN EQUITY.

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SERVE ON	THE STATE OF ALABAMA, BALDWIN COUNTY.		
Circuit Court of Baldwin County In Equity.			
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Vs.	Defendant		
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Solicitor for Complainant	Jon Da		
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MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, as Executor, etc,

Complainant,

-vs-

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al, Defendants. IN EQUITY
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
BAIDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

I, Thomas W. Richerson, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Register in Equity, hereby certify that there is not pending on either side of the Circuit Court of Baldwin County any suit to enforce or test the validity of complainant's title to Lots Twenty-two, Twenty-four and Twenty-five of the Village of Montrose.

I further certify that I have made inquiry of the Clerk of the Probate Court of Baldwin County and find that there is no proceeding of any kind of that Court affecting the title to lands in any way.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I hereunto set my hand and official seal on this the twelfth day of July, 1927.

Clerk and Register Circuit Court Baldwin County, Alabama. IN EQUITY
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, Executor etc. Complainent,

vs

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al, Defendant.

OERTIFICATE OF CLERK AND REGISTER.

Tuel July 12/927 Tolleenou Regiser

WECORDED

MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, as executor, etc., Complainant,

-VS-

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al, Respondents. IN EQUITY
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
BAIDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

This cause coming on to be heard, was submitted for decree on the pleadings; decree pro confesso and proof as noted, and upon consideration thereof the Court is of the opinion that the complainant is entitled to relief;

Cyrus L. Sibley, Lillian Moore, Carrie Bell Erhardt, Mary Sibley, Wesley Sibley, Clarence Sibley, Claude Sibley, Mattie Sibley, Louis Sibley, Richard Sibley, Willard Sibley, Leslie Sibley, Harold Sibley, Robert Lee Sibley, Jack Sibley, Clara Sibley, Bonnie Sibley, Emmet Sibley, Lomers Sibley and Ruth Sibley have no estate or interest in or encumbrance on lots Twenty-two, Twenty-four and Twenty-five of the Village of Montrose according to plat of same made by Gavin Yuille, C. E., and recorded in the Probate Court of Baldwin County, or any part thereof.

It is further ORDERED that the Register of this Court within thirty days from the rendition of this decree file a certified copy thereof in the office of the Probate Judge of Baldwin County for record therein, and that the cost thereof be taxed in the costs of the cause.

It is further ORDERED that defendants Clarence E. Sibley and Robert Westley Sibley pay the costs of this cause, for which execution may issue.

DONE at Brewton, Alabama, on this the twenty-first day of July, Nineteen Hundred and Twenty-seven.

Judge, Circuit Court.

Miller Reve Hulelinon Robinstown Leggen & Debley Lal? Piled July 25, 1927 OW Richard

RECORDED

The State of Alabama. Baldwin County.

Circuit Court In Equity.

cald County, Alabama, to hereby cortify that the above

is a full, true and correct copy of the decree rendered

by said Court on the flet day of July 1927, in cause

of Allier Seese Autohicon, as exacutor, etc., Complainent

vs . Cyrus L. Libley et al, Respondents, as appears of record

in said Court.

Citmose of hand and the soul of said Court, this the 25th.

TW. Recurrence

MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, Executor, et cetera, Complainant,

- VS-

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al, Defendants. IN EQUITY
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

In this cause it being made to appear to the Register that a summons was served upon the Defendants Cyrus L. Sibley, Lillian Moore, Carrie Bell Erhardt, Mary Sibley and Claude Sibley, by the Sheriff of Mobile County on the 2 4 day of September, 1926, and on Mattie Sibley by the Sheriff of Escambia County on the 4 day of September, 1926, requiring them to appear and plead, answer or demur to the bill of complaint in this cause within thirty days from the service of said summons, and the said Defendants having failed to plead, answer or demur to the said bill to the date hereof: IT IS NOW THEREFORE, on motion of Complainant, ORDERED and DECREED that the said bill of complaint in this cause be and it hereby is taken as confessed against the said Defendants above named.

WITNESS my hand this the first day of Nevember, Nineteen Eundred and Twenty-six.

> T.W. Nielunon Register.



IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

HUTCHISON,

٧S

SIBLEY.

DECREE PRO CONFESSO AGAINST MINOR DEFENDANTS.

Filed Nov, at 1926. TW. Nielunon Register

RECORDED

MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, Executor, et cetera, Complainant,

– VS –

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al, Defendants. IN EQUITY
IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF
BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

To My Hawkins Esq.

You are hereby notified that you have been appointed guardian ad litem of LOUIS SIBLEY, RICHARD SIBLEY, WILLARD SIBLEY, LESLIE SIBLEY, HAROLD SIBLEY, JACK SIBLEY, CLARA SIBLEY, BONNIE SIBLEY EMMERT SIBLEY, LOMAR SIBLEY, RUTH SIBLEY and ROBERT LEE SIBLEY, who are minors interested in a certain matter pending in this Court entitled as appears in the caption hereof.

TWALLUME Register.

I hereby accept the above appointment as guardian for the infant defendants named in the above notice.

WITNESS my hand at Bay Minette this the /c day of November, 1926.

MISSaukins

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TILEM VAD HIS VOOEBLVACE NOTICE TO CUARDIAN AD

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAIA.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

HUTCHISON,

SIBTEX.

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#### IN ACCOUNT WITH

# G. W. Humphries

### JUDGE OF PROBATE, BALDWIN COUNTY

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MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, Executor, etc., Complainant,

-V8-

CYRUS L. SIBLEY, et al, Defendants. IN EQUITY.

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF

BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

In this cause it appearing to the Register by the sworn bill of complaint that the defendants LOUIS SIBLEY, RICHARD SIBLEY, and WILLARD SIBLEY are in the belief of the affiant infants over the age of fourteen years, and that summons on the bill of complaint in this cause has been given by service upon their mother, Mrs. Mattie Sibley, with whom they live, as shown by the return of the Sheriff of Escambia County; and it further appearing that LESLIE SIBLEY and HAROLD SIBLEY, minors over the age of fourteen years, residing in the City of Mobile, have no surviving parent or guardian but have been served with notice personally by the Sheriff of Mobile County; and it further appearing that JACK SIB-LEY, CLARA SIBLEY and BONNIE SIBLEY are minors under the age of fourteen years, residing with their mother, Mrs. Mattie Sibley, and that service has been had upon the said Mrs. Mattie Sibley as shown by the return of the Shermiff of Escambia County; and it further appearing that EMMETT SIBLEY, LOMAR SIBLEY and RUTH SIB-LEY are minors under the age of fourteen, and that service has been had upon them by notice to their guardian, Mrs. E. J. Seifert, as shown by the return of the Sheriff of Mobile County; and it further appearing that ROBERT LEE SIBLEY, a minor over the age of fourteen years and non-resident of the State of Alabama, has been served by registered mail, he having no living parent, and also by summons served upon Mrs. E. J. Seifert, his guardian, by the Sheriff of Mobile County; and it further appearing that service upon all of said minors has been had more than thirty days prior to this date and no one has been nominated by any of said minors to act as guardian ad litem; and it further appearing

that Esq., is in all respects a suitable person to act as guardian ad litem for said infants, and he having filed his consent in writing to act as such:

IT IS NOW, THEREUPON ORDERED by the Register that the said by and he hereby is appointed guardian ad litem in this cause for all of said inmant defendants.

WITNESS my hand this / RC day of November, Nineteen Hundred and Twenty-six.

T. W. Recever

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA.

HUTCHISON,

٧S

SIBLEY.

ORDER APPOINTING GUARDIAN AD LITEM

Tiled Nov 12t/926. T.W. Ricuson Register

RECORDED

TO THE HONORABLE JOHN D. LEIGH, JUDGE OF THE CIRCUIT COURT OF BALDWIN COUNTY, ALABAMA, SITTING IN EQUITY:

Comes MILLER REESE HUTCHISON, as executor of and Trustee under the will of William P. Hutchison, deceased, and by this his bill of complaint presented against CYRUS L. SIBLEY and others hereinafter named as defendants, respectfully shows to the Court:

ty-one years, a resident of the State of New York, and by authority of the will of William P. Hutchison, deceased, duly probated in the Probate Court of Mobile County, Alabama, executor of said estate and Trustee of the real property thereof.

SECOND: That the defendants to this cause are:

Cyrus L. Sibley, Lillian Moore, Carrie Belle Erhardt, Mary Sibley, Wesley Sibley, Clarence Sibley and Claude Sibley, residents of Mobile County, and Mattie Sibley, residing at Canoe, Alabama, all of age; and

Louis Sibley, Richard Sibley and Willard Sibley, minors over the age of fourteen years, residing with their mother Mrs. Mattie Sibley at Canoe, Escambia County, Alabama;

Leslie Sibley and Harold Sibley, minors over the age of fourteen years residing in Mobile, Alabama;

Robert Lee Sibley, Jack Sibley, Clara Sibley and Bonnie V Sibley, minors under the age of fourteen residing with their mother Mrs. Mattie Sibley at Canoe, Alabama; and

Emmet Sibley and Lomers Sibley, minors under the age of fourteen now residing in the Presbyterian Orphans Home at Talladega, Alabama; and

Ruth Sibley, a minor under the age of fourteen years residing with her brother Claude Sibley in Mobile, Alabama.

THIRD: Complainant alleges that he, as such executor, is, and the late William P. Hutchison furing his lifetime, was, in peaceable possession of LOTS TWENTY-TWO, TWENTY-FOUR and TWENTY-FIVE of the VILLAGE OF MONTROSE, Baldwin County, Alabama, according to the Gavin Yuille map of said village on record in the Probate Court of Baldwin County, claiming to own said land.

FOURTH: Complainant further alleges that the defendants hereinabove named are reputed to have some claim, interest or right

in and to the land above described.

FIFTH: Complainant further alleges that no suit is pending to enforce or test the validity of such title, claim or encumbrance as defendants may have, and Complainant therefore calls upon each defendant separately to set forth and specify his or her title, claim, interest or encumbrance and to show how and by what instrument the same is derived or created.

THE PREMISES CONSIDERED, Complainant prays that Cyrus L. Sibley, Lillian Moore, Carrie Belle Erhardt, Mary Sibley, Wesley Sibley, Clarence Sibley, Shaude Sibley, Mattie Sibley, Louis
Sibley, Richard Sibley, Willard Sibley, Leslie Sibley, Harold Sibley, Robert Lee Sibley, Jack Sibley, Clara Sibley, Bonnie Sibley,
Emmet Sibley, Lomers Sibley and Ruth Sibley be made parties respondent to this bill, that an order be made nominating a guardian ad litem for the minor defendants and that all of said defendants be required to answer same within the time prescribed
by law and abide by such orders and decrees as may be made in the
premises.

Complainant further prays that upon the hearing of this cause this Court will establish the title of Complainants in and to the above described land and further find and decree that each and all of the defendants have no claim, interest or title therein or encumbrance upon same, and grant Complainant such other, further or different relief as to equity may seem meet.

Solicitors for Complainant.

NOTE:

Defendants are required to answer each paragraph of the foregoing bill but not under oath.

Solicitors for Complainant.

#### THE STATE OF ALABAMA---JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

THE SUPPLIES COURT OF ALABAMA

OUTODIA TERM, 1938-29.

1 Div. 476.

Glarence W. Sibley, et al.

T o

Miller Reese Mutchison, Executor, Ac., Appeal from Baldwin Gircuit Court, In Equity.

Indan, J.

The appellant filed this bill "as Executor of and Trustee under the will of William P. Mutchison, deceased," under the statute to quiet title to "lots twenty-two, twenty-four and twenty-five of the village of Montrose, Baldwin County, Alabama, according to the Gavin Yuille map of said village on record in the probate office of Baldwin County," averring that the complainant is, and the late William P. Mutchison during his lifetime, was in peaceable possession thereof, claiming to own said land and averring that the will of said william P. Butchison, deceased, was duly probated in the Probate Court of Mobile County, and by authority of said

will complainant is the executor of said estate and trustes of the real property thereof; and that the respondents are reputed to have "some claim, interest or right in and to the land described in the bill that no suit is pending to test the title, claim or incumbrance the defendants may have, and calls upon them, each, to set forth and specify his or her title, claim, interest or incumbrance, and show by what instrument the same is derived or created."

These averments meet the requirements of the statute as to the general equity of the bill and complainent's right to suc. - Code of 1925, (9905.

while the rules of good pleading in suits by executors require an allegation of their due appointment, naming the court giving the date of the issuance of letters testamentary, (Sim's Ch. Pr. (198; I Dom. Ch. Pr. (1883-364), this defect was not pointed out by the demarker and it was overruled without error. - Code 1983, (6883; <u>L. & H. R. R. Co. v. Cowley, et al.</u>... 164 Als. 331, 50 So. 1015.

The assignments of error questioning the regularity of the proceedings in contradiction of the record, can avail the a peliant nothing as we must presume regularity numbers the contrary appears on the face of the record. - Carson, et al.

v. Sleigh, 201 Ala. 373, 78 So. 229. The order of the Court overruing appellant's notion to dismiss the bill because of the alleged insufficiency of complainant's answer to the interrogatorica propounded to him under the statute, though marked filed by the register on July 30th, 1927, shows on ite face that it was entered "at Bay Minette on the 10th day of June," 1927, and this recital conclusively refutes the contention of appellant that it was entered at a later date and antedated. - Carson, et al. v. Sleigh, Supra.

The statute, Code of 1923, [7764, authorizing the "examination of parties by interrogatories" by the party adversely interested, though the mode of procedure is essimilated to that prevailing in bills for discovery in equity, contemplates the cliciting of logal evidence, and interrogatories calling for mere hoursay need not be answered. - <u>Oulver, Admr. V. Ala. Midland by.</u> Co., 108 Ala. 330; <u>Cain Lumber So. v. Standard Dry Kiln So.</u>, 108 Ala. 346.

The motion to dismiss for failure of the complainant to answer the interrogatories was denied without error for another reason, - it sought to comfine the discretion of the Court to a dismissel of the bill. - <u>Russell v. Bush</u>, 196 Ala. 369, 71 Se. 397.

Proof of peaceable possession by complainant, actual or constructive, at the filing of the bill makes a prime facic case, entitling the complainant to relief, and in the absence of a crossbill by the respondents, complainant is not required to specifically avow or set forth his title, and can rely on peaceable possession so proven, unless respondents establish the title specifically avowed in their snewer. - George R. Wood Lamber Go. v. Williams, 157 Ala. 73, 47 So. 202; Mandrick v. Golvar, 145 Ala. 597, 42 So. 110; Micra v. Com. MS.; Mast What H. Go. v. Blue Mach. & Foundry Co., 161 Ala. 461, 48 So. 448. Actual adverse possession of land for twenty years or more, without the recognition of adverse claim, creates a conclusive presumption of title. - Vidmer v. Lloyd, 195 Ala. 386, 69 So. 480; Meore v. Elliott, 116 So. 346; Kidd, et al. v. Borum, 181 Ala. 144, 61 So. 100; Ann. Gas. 1915-C, 1226.

The appellants offered no proof of their avoved title or interest, and the evidence adduced by complainant shows that the complainant's testator, William . Nutchinson, and those

under whom he claimed, had been in continuous passession of the lands in question, without recognition of adverse claims, for more than twenty years, and this, without more, was sufficient to establish constructive pesceable possession in the complainant who suce as his executor.

The representative character of the complainant was not denied in the answer, nor by plea he unques executor, and in the absence of such denial or plea, it was unnecessary for the complainant to make proof of the fact of an executorable, or offer the will in evidence. - Clark v. Clark, \$1 Ala. 498.

The appellant complains that he was taxed with all costs, including the costs of the appointment and services of the guardien ad liter for minors, and the costs of bringing in non-resident defendants. While as a general rule the court has a broad discretion in the taxation of costs in equity cases, and if there is nothing more in the case, error in this regard will not constitute grounds for reversal; yet such matters are subject to review here. - Allen V. Lewis, 74 Ala. 379; Kinney V. White, et al., 215 Ala. 247, 110 Sc. 394; Torter V. Menderson, 204 Ala. 564, 86 So. 531.

been taxed with the costs incident to the appointment of the guardian ad lites and his services, and the costs incident to publication for the non-resident minor defendants should not have been taxed against the appellants, and in this respect the decree will be corrected so as to tax said costs against appellae, and all other costs, including the costs of the appeal, will be taxed against appellants, and as of corrected the decree will be affirmed.

Corrected and affirmed.

Anderson, C.J., Sayre and Thomas, JJ., concur.

# THE STATE OF ALABAMA-JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

## THE SUPREME COURT OF ALABAMA

	-76	
Clarence & Se	Lley, et al	, Appellant,
	vs.	
miller Reese Hutch	sow Ex. tel	, Appellee,
From Baldwin		Circuit Court.
$The \ State \ of \ Alabama,$ $City \ and \ County \ of \ Montgomery.$		•
I, Robert F. Ligon, Clerk of the Supreme (		
going pages, numbered from one to four	inclusive, contain a full, true a	nd correct copy
of the opinion of said Supreme Court in the abo	ve stated cause, as the same appo-	
of record and on file in this office.	Witness, Robert F. Ligon, Clerk o	
•	Court of Alabama, at the Control of Mareur	Jev., 1928 Josef
	Clerk of the Supreme Cour	t of Alabama.

## The Supreme Court of Alabama

October Term, 1928-9

1st Div., No. 476

Clarence & Sebley

et al

Appellant,

vs.

mille Ruse Hutchison

Ex. etc

Appellee

From Baldun Cuciut Court.

### COPY OF OPINION

Filed IVV 3rd /928, Tiled IVV 3rd /928, The Received 1st Div. 476

Baldwin Circuit Court (In Equity)

Clarence E. Sibley, et al

٧s.

Miller Reese Hutchison, Extr. &c.

Come the parties by attorneys and the record and matters therein assigned for errors being submitted on briefs and duly examined and understood by the Court it is considered that the decree of the Circuit Court be corrected, taxing the costs incident to the appointment of the guardian ad litem and his services, and the costs incident to publication for the non-resident minor defendant against the appellee instead of appellants. All other costs of the Circuit Court are hereby taxed against the appellants. As thus corrected the decree is affirmed.

· It is also considered that appellants, Clarence E. Sibley and Wesley R. Sibley and E. Lyles Hatter and Robert C. Marshall, sureties on the appeal bond, pay the costs of appeal of this Court and of the Circuit Court.

# THE STATE OF ALABAMA—JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT

## THE SUPREME COURT OF ALABAMA

Clarence E. Sibley, et al , Appel  "".  Miller Reese Huthhison, Extr. &c. , App  Miller Reese Huthhison, Extr. &c. , App  The State of Alabama, City and County of Montgomery.  I, Robert F. Ligon, Clerk of the Supreme Court of Alabama, do hereby certify to foregoing pages highly high from high for file ////////////////////////////////////	
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The Supreme Court of Alabama
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Clarence E. Sibley, et al
$Appellant, \ v.$
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Etc.
From Baldwin Circuit Court.
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# The State of Alabama, Baldwin County-Circuit Court.

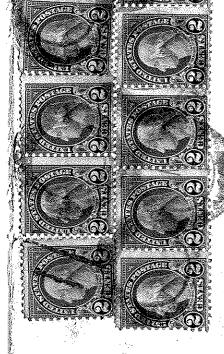
To the Sheriff of the State of Alabama-Greeting:

Whereas, at	a Term of the C	Circuit Cour	t of Baldwin	County, held on the
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to reverse which	decree	the said	Clarence D	. wibley and wesl
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# CIRCUIT COURT BALDWIN COUNTY, ALA.

CITATION IN APPEAL.

day of 1/07 191



Miller Reese Hutchinson, Complainant,)

YS.

:-In the Circuit Court of Baldwin Co., Alabama.

Cyrus L. Sibley, et al, Defendants.

#### Demurrer.

Comes the defendants Clarence E.Sibley and Robert Westley Sibley and demure to the bill of complaint filed herein on the following grounds:-1.Because the bill fails to aver the character of the alleged trusteeship of the complainant.

- 2. Because the bill fails to show sufficient interest, or title, in the complainant to authorize him to sue,
- 3. Because the bill does not allege sufficient facts to give the court jurisdiction.

4. Hecause the bill does not show authority in the complainant to sue.

Attorneyfor defendants C.E.

and R.W.Sibley.

(Ecx 704, Mobile, Ala.)

Miles Rene Victorion.

Oyser & Sibility

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