Examined by me personally & apart from the said husband, and having the writing, referred to by me signed by her, she the said Melinda Francis acknowledged the same to be her act & deed, and declared that she does not wish to retract the release under my hand this 8th day of December 1872.

Mills A. Brooks N.P.

Southampton County, Set. In the Clerk's Office, December 9th 1872.

This Deed of Bargain & Sale from David Francis & wife to Peter Brown was this day produced & acknowledged with the Certificates thereto annexed, & ordered to be recorded.

Teste, J. A. Rodgers, C.C.

This Deed made this 8th day of Dec. in the year one thousand eight hundred & seventy two, between Allen H. Cotten & Edmund his wife of the County of Southampton, State of Virginia, of the first part and Joseph Barden of the same place of the second part, Witnesseth, that for and in consideration of the sum of two hundred & forty seven dollars (Examined) lawful money of the United States paid by the said Joseph Barden to the said Allen H. Cotten & wife, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have bargained and sold & by these presents do grant, bargain and sell unto the said Joseph Barden, his heirs & assigns forever, all our Virginia State Certificate of Land situate in the County of Southampton State of Virginia, & bounded as follows, Beginning at a White Oak on the margin of the Cedar Swamp branch on Grassland road, thence N. 74½ W. 41.15 ch., thence S. 24½ W. 7.50 ch. to White Oak, S. 2 thence S. 10½ W. 6.65 ch. to Maple S. 2 thence S. 64½ W. 10.55 ch. to a pine S. 2 thence S. 38½ W. 11.32 ch. to a Hickory Pine & Co. for their bank on Wm. R. Moore's line, thence S. 75 E. 4.00 ch., thence S. 7½ E. 8 ch., thence S. 18½ E. 2.30 ch., thence S. 34 E. 9.20 ch., thence S. 12½ E. 3.80 ch. thence S. 9½ W. 8.15 ch. thence S. 24½ E. 17.63 ch. to beginning, Containing by actual survey forty nine acres, together with all the Estate, title & interest of the grantor of, in & to the said premises & any part thereof. Witness the following as our hand & seal, on the day & date the 8th day of December, one thousand Eight hundred & seventy two.

Allen H. Cotten (Seal)
Edmund Cotten (Seal)

State of Virginia, County of Southampton, to wit,
I, E. B. Vaughan a Justice in & for the County aforesaid do hereby certify that the day personally appeared before me in the County aforesaid Allen H. Cotten whose name is signed to the writing above bearing date the 8th day of December 1872, & acknowledged the same to be his act. Given under my hand this 8th day of Dec. 1872.

E. B. Vaughan J.P.

State of Virginia, County of Southampton, to wit,
I, W. B. Collier, J. E. B. Vaughan Justices in & for the aforesaid