

1838-010

Isle of Wight County

Chancery Causes: John P. Thomas, gdn of Vincent C. Blunt v al vs Claiborne W.
Booth + wh + al
Joel Hollenman, gdn v al vs Joel Hollenman, gdn, Claiborne Booth's
sister + al

Other surnames: Crocker
Leever, Conner Atkinson,
Gibbs, Boothe,

My dear
Pleasant & others

June 1st 1835 North & Sonny
assigned you: aditum to the
infant defendants and in-
fants answer filed

November 3.^e 1835. Interl. 4. decra

December 1833 Com^d rept:
with sundry bones filed & cont^d.

March 27th 1836 commission
was reft. confd & final decre.

100
 100
 1.03 Sp. f.
 36
 1.00
 30 decr
 34 copy
 10. p. 100
 75 100
 100
 100
 30
 100
 1.00
 34
 80

objection if any have the said Booths &
wife to the same which for by your
orator. So they not think that the intent
of the words of your orator manifestly
require such sale and that they agree
this bill to the best of their knowledge
and belief. Your orator charges that
if the said Vincent B. Blunt, Junr, Jr.
Blunt and Mary F. Blunt have been
under the age of 21 years and without
issue, the said Catharine Boomer, Har-
-ilton and Lucien Crocker Richard Crocker,
Mabel Crocker Cornelia Virginia
Blunt, Henry L. Blunt, Jennings A. Blunt,
Mr B. Blunt, Richard Blunt, Joseph Blunt,
Babett B. Blunt, Lemuel B. Blunt, and
Littleton A. Blunt and Henry B. Lewis
would be heirs at law of the real estate
now sought to be sold and under the
act of assembly authorizing the proceeding
are proper parties to this bill. In tender
consideration whereof, and as it is manifest
that the intent of his wards, namely a
sale of the said real estate, your orator
prays that your honor will make a
decree directing a sale as aforesaid,
allot to the said Booth and wife a
fair equivalent for their interest, and
direct a distribution of the balance in

legal proportion, and make an
investment or most to promote
the interest of your complainant, and
he prays that you will make any other
order the decree in the premises, or
may seem proper, that you will
grant the Commonwealth writ
of Subpoena, directed to, command
to and on in duty bound hereunto
may do. — *Archibald H. Hinson Jr.*

Sh of Wight County, Va. This day came before
the undersigned who is a justice for the
said County, John P. Thomas, the plaintiff,
who made oath that the statements in
the foregoing bill is true so far as it
relates to his own knowledge,
and that so far as it relates to the
knowledge of others he believes it to
be true. Given under my hand &
seal this 24 day of April 1855 —

Jordan Lee (L)

the House, you to decay - or change - in value and
value impoverished by an injudicious
system of cultivation, that it is manifestly
to the advantage of the orphans that the
same shall now be sold, if especially
the tenants of your wife consent to permit
the whole plantation to go into market
and take for the same, such part of the
be simple present, or shall be considered
as a fair equivalent for the life estate,
and that the assent which arises to them by
reason of the sale be invested in such manner
as to the Court may seem best - and believ-
ing that the interest of the wards of your
orator manifestly requires such sale, he
prays the intervention of this Court of Equity
in which such matters are cognizable;
and he prays that Blairhorne Mr Booth
and Francis de Booth his wife, who
was widow of John Bleunt and who's
mother of the said infants, the said Kinat
C Bleunt, James Josiah Bleunt and Mary
Bleunt and infants of tender years, the said
Vincent only being above the age of 14 years,
Batharine Boumer an aunt of the said
infants on the part of the father, Hamid-
ton Brooker and Julius Brooker infant
children of Sampson Brooker and his late
wife Sally who was aunt on the part of the
father of said orphans, Richard Mapalon,

Brooker infant children of Mr Brooker & his late
wife Mary who was paternal aunt of the
said orphans, Francis Cornelia Virginia
Bleunt infant children of Josiah Bleunt and
who was ~~late~~ paternal uncle of your orator
wards, Henry A Bleunt, James A Bleunt,
Mr C Bleunt, Richard Bleunt, Joseph Bleunt
Papitt B Bleunt, Lemuel R Bleunt and Little
-leton A Bleunt children of Thomas Bleunt
and: paternal uncle of your orator
wards, Henry B Lewis infant child of
Betsey Lewis late Betsey Bleunt now dead
who was also an aunt on the father side
of the said wards and all other proper
persons shall be made defendants, and
the infants by proper persons to be appoin-
-ted to defend them in this suit and
that they be required on their corporate
oath, full, true, just, perfect to answer
and make to answer and sign the
the allegation aforesaid as fully as if
the same were herein again repeated
and they should come more especially
and particularly interrogated - that
they say whether the allegations aforesaid
be true or not true - if contrary to
what does the falsity or misstatement
consist and then any good and suffi-
-cient reasons why the said lands
shall not be sold and reasons for what

the slaves belonging to the three children
are Dick worth \$250. - Lewis \$400; Adam \$600;
Monapate \$400; Peter \$400; Rose & child \$400;
making a total in slaves of about \$2550;
the admsr. some time ago, caused his administra-
-tion on the estate to be settled, and paid over
the sums respectively due to the children which
went to the hands of Mr. Blunt who was the
guardian, all which will appear by refer-
-ence to attested copies of said accounts
which annexed marked ^{opened to be}
considered parts of this bill. - By the account
of the guardianship, it seems that the children
and four guardian and Mr. Blunt stand as
follows. -

Since the events aforesaid have occurred, the
said guardian Frank de Blunt has inter-
-married with one Claiborne W. Booth
and under an order of the County Court of
Bluff Wight of March 1835, the said Booth
and wife have been removed from the
guardianship and now orator is now the
guardian of the said orphan, as will appear by a
certificate of the clerk of the County Court of Bluff Wt.
which annexed marked ^{opened to be} ~~marked~~ ^{opened to be} ~~marked~~ ^{opened to be}
and considered part of this bill. - Some time ago,
upon an order of the Circuit Superior Court of
law and chancery for the County of Bluff Wight,
the dower of the said widow was set apart &
allotted to her in the lands of the estate John
Blunt; in that allotment, the whole dower of the
widow was taken in the manor plantation
in Bluff Wight, as will appear by reference
to the office copy of the report of the Commissioners

here to annexed marked by annexed to be
lotus and considered part of this bill. - Mr. Blunt
who has intermarried with Claiborne W.
Booth is about the age of ^{year} 4 in
good health and all the heirs and
most valuable parts of the plantation
having been set aside to the said widow,
breached the Commissioners gave her report
of the survey lands, the balance of the manor
plantation left to now orator, is now in
worth in its present condition but little
the annual rent or value perhaps \$15
or \$20 -

the sum for which it is now on rent. - The
annual income of the said infant is now
about \$7 - each. - Vincent B. Blunt is between
14 and 16 years of age; James Josiah Blunt
about the age of 9 years and Mary F.
Blunt the age of 7 years and it is confi-
-dently supposed and therefore charged that if
the said infant can probably get possession
of the land in Bluff Wight where the said
Mr. Booth is now owned and before they shall
arrive to the age of twenty one year, the
plantation will be so materially injured
by dilapidation and the destructive
course of tillage customary in the neigh-
-borhood especially too of lands held
by the tenant for life only, that now orator
nearly believes in the course of 15 or 10 years
when the youngest child will become of age
the plantation will have so deteriorated,

To the Court the ~~just~~ justice of the County of
of the County of Wright is shewn in a manner

Humbly complaining, sheweth to your Honor some
complainants John P. Thomas of the County of the County of
Wright who is guardian for Vincent B. Blunt,
Samy Josiah Blunt and Mary Frances Blunt
infants and orphans of John Blunt dec'd; late of
the County of Georgia. That the said John Blunt
departed this life intestate about the day of
leaving a widow in all Blunt
and the infant children aforesaid. He was seized
and possessed of two tracts of land in fee simple,
one in Henry containing about 400 acres, and
supposed now to be worth about two thousand
or \$2500, the annual rents of which is about
\$35 or \$40, and he left several valuable
slaves, besides other personal estate. One of the
said tracts of land called the Manor plan-
tation and sometimes called "
lies on James River near Petersburg, Bay, &
is supposed to contain about 210 acres of
land, & to be worth from two thousand
dollars to ; on the latter farm
is a large orchard and good buildings,
especially a two story wood dwelling house
which orchard and house, constitute the
chief value of the plantation. Soon after
the death of the said John Blunt the said
who is a Justice of the Peace of the County of
Wright, with the consent of the said
the widow and a decree of the County of
of the County of Wright, was a division of the slaves
between the widow and the children, a part
being to the widow for her slaves, the
balance was allotted to the orphans aforesaid
without any division of the same.

heirs at law of the real estate now sought to be sold, and under the act of
 assembly authorizing this proceeding are proper parties to this bill - He
 tender consideration whereof, and as it is manifest that the interest of
 his wards requires a sale of the said real estate, your orator prays that your
 honors will make a decree directing a sale as aforesaid, allot to the said
 Booth & wife a fair equivalent for their interest and direct a distribution of
 the balance in legal and proper proportions and make an instrument so
 as most to promote the interest of your complainants wards, - He prays
 that you will make any other or further decree in the premises as may
 seem proper, that you will grant the commonwealth's writ of subpoena
 directed to commanding &c, and is in duty bound he will ever pray &c.

Archibald Cockburn prays.

Sole of right hereby set,

This day came before the undersigned who is a
 justice for the said county, John P. Thomas the plaintiff, who made oath
 that the statement in the foregoing bill is true so far as it depends
 on his own knowledge, and that so far as it depends on the knowledge of
 others he believes it to be true. Given under my hand & seal this day
 of April 1835

Clad

Blunt's Orphan's Pl. Copy Note

vs 3 Bill

Nathl Young &
" & "

Blunt & others

May 11th: 1835 Bill &

exhibits filed

June 1st 1835 Nathl Young

appeared for assistance to the
 infant defendants & infants

answer filed

1st Saturday in Aug.
 to take depositions

order of the county court of Solowright of March 1835. the said North
Wife have been removed from the Guardianship and your orator is now
the guardian of the said Orphans as will appear by a certificate of
the clerk of the county court of Solowright hereto annexed marked F. and
~~and~~ prayed to be taken and considered part of this bill, some time ago
under an order of the circuit Superior court of Law and Chancery for the
county of Solowright the dower of the said widow was set apart and
allotted to her in the lands of the intestate John Blunt in that allotment,
the whole dower of the widow was taken in the manor plantation in Solow-
right, and will appear by reference to the office copy of the report of the
commissioners hereto annexed marked G. and prayed to be taken and consid-
ered part of this bill, Mr. Blunt who has intermarried with Claiborne M.
Booth is about the age of years and in good health and all the
houses and most valuable parts of the plantation having been set aside
to the said widow because the commissioners gave her no part of the
Scurry lands, the balance of the manor plantation left to your orators
wards ^{is worth} in its present condition but little the annual rent or value per-
haps of the sum for which it is now on rent - the
annual income of the said infants is now \$ each, - Vincent B.
Blunt is between 14 and 16 years of age, James Josiah Blunt about the
age of years and Mary J. Blunt the age of years, and it is
confidently supposed and therefore charged that before the said infants can
probably get possession of the land in Solowright whereof they said Mr.
Booth is endowed also before they shall arrive to the age of twenty one
years, the plantation will be so materially injured by dilapidation and
the destruction caused of tillage customary in the neighborhood, especial-
ly two of lands held by the tenant for life only, that your orator vividly believes
in the course of 15 or 16 years, when the youngest child will become of age
the plantation will have so deteriorated the houses gone to decay, orchards
ruined and lands impoverished, by an injudicious system of cultivation,
that it is manifestly to the advantage of the orphans that the same shall
now be sold, if, especially the tenants of dower will consent to permit the
whole plantation to go into market, and take for the dower such part of the
for simple product, as shall be considered a fair equivalent for the life-
estate, and that the amount which arise to them by reason of the sale
be invested in such manner as to the court may seem best, and believing that

the interest of the wards of your orator manifestly requires such sale, he
prays the interposition of this court of equity in which such matters are
cognizable, and he prays that Claiborne M. Booth and Frances M. Booth
his wife, who was widow of John Blunt, and who is mother of the said in-
fants, the said Vincent B. Blunt, James Josiah Blunt and Mary J. Blunt
all infants of tender years, the said Vincent only being above the age of
14 years, Catherine Bonner an aunt of the said infants on the part of the
father Hamilton Crocker and Julius Crocker infant children of Humphrey
Crocker and his late wife Sally who was aunt on the part of the father of
said Orphans, Richard & Mapalona Crocker infant children of Mr. Crocker
and his late wife Mary who was paternal aunt of the said Orphans &
wards, Camilla & Virginia Blunt infant children of Josiah Blunt dead
who was paternal uncle of your orators wards, Henry S. Blunt, James S.
Blunt, Mr. B. Blunt, Richard Blunt, Joseph Blunt, Baptist B. Blunt,
Samuel E. Blunt, and Littleton A. Blunt children of Thomas Blunt dead,
paternal uncle of your orators wards, Henry B. Suver infant child of
Betsey Suver late Betsey Blunt now dead who was also an aunt on the
fathers side of the said wards and all other proper persons shall be made
defendants hereto, the infants by proper persons to be appointed to defend
them in this suit, and that they be required on their corporal oath, full
true, just, perfect and direct answers to make to all and singular the
allegations aforesaid as fully as if the same were herein again repeated
and they thereto were more especially and particularly interrogated - that
they say whether the allegations set forth herein are not true - if untrue,
in what does the falsity or misstatement consist, are there any good and
substantial reasons why the said land shall not be sold as prayed for -
What objections if any have the said Booth Wife to the decree wished for
by your orator - Do they not think that the interest of the wards of your
orator manifestly requires such sale, and that they answer this bill
to the best of their knowledge and belief. - Your orator charges that if
the said Vincent B. Blunt, James Josiah Blunt and Mary J. Blunt were
dead under the age of twenty one years and without issue, that said brother
rino Bonner, Hamilton and Julius Crocker, Richard Crocker, Mapal-
ona Crocker, Camilla & Virginia Blunt, Henry S. Blunt, James S.
Blunt, ^{Mr.} B. Blunt, Richard Blunt, Joseph Blunt, Baptist B. Blunt,
Samuel E. Blunt, and Littleton A. Blunt, and Henry B. Suver, would be

To the Hon^{ble} the Justice of the county court of Ischof Wight sitting in
chamberg
Humbly complaining, sheweth to your honor your complainant John P.
Thomson of the county of Ischof Wight who is guardian for Vincent C. Blunt,
James Josiah Blunt, and Mary Francis Blunt, infants and orphans of
John Blunt dec^d late of the county aforesaid. - That the said John Blunt
departed this life intestate about the day of leaving a widow
Frances M. Blunt, and the infant children aforesaid. - He was seized and
possessed of two tracts of land in fee simple one in Surry containing
about four hundred acres, and supposed now to be worth about two thou-
sand or \$2500, the annual rents of which is about \$35 or \$40, and he
left several valuable slaves, besides other personal estate - one of the said
tracts of land called the manor plantation, and sometimes called "

" lies on James River near Burwells bay, and is supposed
to contain about 200 acres of land and to be worth from two thousand
dollars to on the latter farm is a large orchard and
good buildings, especially a two story wood dwelling house, which or-
chard and house, constitute the chief value of the plantation - soon
after the death of the said John Blunt, the administrator who is Arch^d
Atkinson of the county of Ischof Wight, with the consent of Mr^s Blunt
the widow under a decree of the county court of Ischof Wight, had a
division of the slaves between the widow and the children, allotting to the
widow her dower slaves, the balance were allotted to the Orphans afo-
said, without being divided between them, and the slaves belonging to
three infant children are Dick worth \$250 Lewis \$500, Adams \$600
Bonapart \$400 Peter \$400, Rose & child \$400, making a total in slaves
of about \$2550. the administrator some time ago, closed his admin-
istration on the estate to be settled, and paid over the sums respectively
due to the children which went to the hands of Mr^s Blunt who was
the Guardian, all which will appear by reference to attested copies of said
accounts hereto annexed marked I prayed to be considered parts
of this bill - By the accounts of the Guardianship it seems that the
children and former Guardian Mr^s Blunt stands as follows

since the court aforesaid have occurred the said Guardian Frances M.
Blunt has intermarried with one Claiborne W. Booth, and under an

a deed for real land to ~~the~~
Marie & North for her share interest
and to the ~~real~~ children of the
real Claiborne North and to wit
Julia Ann, Faustina, Lucilla and
Claiborne North for the remainder
in fee simple ~~and report his~~
~~and the court~~ and the court
doth confirm the report of the com-
missioners and the rule made
under the former decree, that the
same shall be rescript and bind-
ing between the parties forever
surviving to the infant defendants
a year and a day to show cause
&c

Thomas you
vs.

Plaints vs. plain

supplemental
bill

Nov. 3rd 1838.

Bill & Felix & entry.

decreed entered.

are his four children to wit the
said Juliana Anne, Fannina, Lucil
and said Claiborne Borth; your
sister Maria F Borth the widow
has received above in the lands
of the said Claiborne Borth her
husband under a decree of court
which is laid off on a portion
of the said land purchased as
provided by the said Claiborne
Borth, and she and the said
children are in possession and
enjoyment of the same, but with
out having the legal title therein
your orator and sister are unex-
posed to the whole matter should
be properly settled that the said
bonds may be paid to the said
Vincent, James, and Mary Blunt
or their legal guardian, by the
executor of the said Claiborne Borth
and that a deed shall be exe-
cuted by the commissioners who
sold the land to the said Maria
F Borth the widow, and the said
Julia Anne, Fannina, Lucilla &
Claiborne Borth children of the said
Claiborne Borth dead. To the end
therefore that relief may be had
your orator and sister pray
that he as Executor, guardian and
next friend, and she in her
own right may be made parties
to the ^{will} suit instituted for the sale
of the said land and by a
decree of the court the said
bonds may be paid, over to your
orator as the guardian of the
said Vincent, James and Mary
Blunt for the purpose of settlement

and that the same commission
do execute a deed to your orator
and the said children of the said
Claiborne Borth dead for the said
land sold under the decree of the
said court and may it please the court
to grant such other relief in
the premises as may be consistent
and necessary &c

Geo P Thomas your &c

Vincent C, James J, and Mary F
Blunt executors of John Blunt dead

This cause came on this day again
to be heard on the papers previously
read in the cause and on the ^{and next friend} petition of Joel Holliman
of the executors of John Blunt dead &
of Claiborne Borth dead who has died
since the last decree in the cause
and also as executor of the said Claiborne
Borth dead ~~deceased~~ and was con-
firmed by court on consideration
of the report and vote by the court
and decree that the clerk of this
court do pay over and deliver to
the said Joel Holliman guardian
of the said Vincent C, James J
and Mary F Blunt the bonds exe-
cuted to them by the said Claiborne Borth
for their respective portions of the land
sold under a former decree in
the cause and take his receipt
for the same to be filed with the
papers in the cause, and that
the cause stand over as executed

To the justices of the county court of
Hampshire in chancery sitting

Humly complaining their suits
your worships your octor Joel Holle-
man guardian and next friend
of Julia Ann Booth, Faustina Booth
Luella Booth and Claiborne Booth ~~and~~
also Executor of the ~~will~~ Claiborne Booth
dead and guardian of Vincent
C. James of and Mary F. Blunt
opposes of John Blunt dead, and
your octor F. Booth widows of the said
Claiborne Booth dead that some
time in the year eighteen hundred
and thirty five a decree was
entered in said county for the
sale of the land and plantation
whereof the said John Blunt
died seized and on which he re-
sided in said county belonging
to his children the said Vincent
James and Mary Blunt sub-
ject to the decree of the said Mary
F. Booth formerly the widows of the
said John Blunt, at the said
said ~~under~~ said decree the said
Claiborne Booth was decreed to
execute the purchase and con-
vey with the terms of said de-
cree by executing his bonds to and
of the said children and heirs
of John Blunt dead which said bonds
were by the commissioners filed
in the clerk's office of said county
where they still remain; no final
decree has ever been rendered
in the cause nor was any
land ever conveyed to the said
Claiborne Booth in his lifetime
The heirs of the said Claiborne

Thomas Dr of
Bleed of his
in 1835
Bleed of

Infants answer

Since 1st 1835 infants
answer filed.

To the County Court of R. of N. H. sitting in
 Chancery. The joint and several account
 of Henry J. Depew
 of the Court of R. of N. H. James I. Bleant, May I. Bleant, Hamilton, Leach
 Julius Crocker, Nick, Graham, Legg, Leach, Crocker, Connelley, Higgins
 Bleant, Henry, A. Bleant, Lundy, A. Bleant, Lundy, Bleant, Nick, Bleant
 Joseph, Bleant, Poplett, B. Bleant, A. Bleant, Lundy, Bleant, Lundy, A. Bleant
 infants of Edward Nease, by Nathaniel Doy
 Clerk of the Court of said county who is by the
 Court appointed guardian and receiver
 to the infant defendants ^{in the suit of John P. Thomas vs} ~~the~~ ^{the} defendants
 for account, say they are of very tender
 years and incapable of protecting their
 rights and interest. They be. on. not
 of the propriety or impropriety of the
 account presented by the complainant,
 they deny the correctness of the allega-
 -tions in the bill and ask for trial
 and full proof - and have agreed
 they pray leave to be dismissed &c.

Signed,

Nathl. Young Esq
 as attorney

R. of N. H. County Jct.

This day came before the court
 - signed who is a justice for said County,
 Nathl. Young Clerk: of the Co. Ct. of R.
 of N. H. who made oath to the
 truth of the account aforesaid &
 for as expenses only, over known &c,
 and that so far as it appears on the
 knowledge of others, he believes it to be
 true - Given under my hand
 and seal this 1 day of Decr. 1835.

John. Holloman

came to hand April 9th 1835

Charles L. Merce Ds

Execute on the defendants C. H. Booth
and his wife by leaving a copy with
them April 10th 1835

Charles L. Merce Ds
per Chas. Merce Shaffer

Plaintiffs Petition

vs.

John W. Chas.

Booth & wife & others

To Mary & John W. Chas.
County Court 1835

to be served on C.

Booth, & his wife

only - no return on

to the writ is necessary as they are infants

A. C. Merce

Chas. L. Shaffer

The commonwealth of Virginia to the Sheriff of Isle of Wight
County Greeting we command you to enjoin Claiborne W. Booth
and Francis M. his wife, Vincent C. Blunt, James Josiah Blunt and
Mary F. Blunt infants. Catharine Conner, Hamilton Crocker, and
Julius Crocker infant children of Sampson Crocker this late wife
Sally - Richard Crocker, Mapalon Crocker infant children of William
Crocker and his late wife Polly, Cornelia Blunt, Virginia Blunt
infant children of Josiah Blunt decd, Henry S. Blunt, Jennings A.
Blunt, William C. Blunt, Richard Blunt, Joseph Blunt, Wapett B.
Blunt, Littleton A. Blunt, and Jennett E. Blunt, infant children
of Thomas Blunt decd. Henry B. Sewer infant son of Isacah Sewer
this late wife Betsey - to appear before the Justices of our said
county at the court House of the said county On the first Monday
in May next being court day - to answer a Bill in chancery in the
said court exhibited against them by John P. Thomas Guardian
for Vincent C. Blunt, James Josiah Blunt, and Mary F. Blunt
orphans and infants of John Blunt decd. And if the said defen-
dants shall fail to answer the said complainants Bill within
four months, from the service of this Subpoena in chancery the
allegations in the said Bill contained will be taken as confessed
and the court will proceed to decree accordingly - And have them
serve this writ, withup Nathaniel Young clerk of our said court
at the court House of the said county the 8th day of April 1855
in the 59th Year of the commonwealth

Nath. Young

Blunts & Co.

vs



Sp. Pri. Chy.

Booth & wife & others

To Isle of Wight Court
May 1835

(Curry)

The Commonwealth of Virginia to the Sheriff
of Surry County, Greeting: We command you to
summon on John Boone Booth & Francis M. his wife
& Vincent C. Blunt, James I. Blunt & Mary J. Blunt
infants - Catharine Boone Hamilton Crocker &
Lubus Crocker infant children of Sampson Crocker
his late wife Sally - Richard Crocker & Mafelou
Crocker infant children of William Crocker &
his late wife Polly, - Cornelia Blunt & Virginia Blunt
infant children of Josiah Blunt dec'd - Henry
L. Blunt, Leming A. Blunt, William C. Blunt, Richd
Blunt, Joseph Blunt, Bassett B. Blunt, Silvester
A. Blunt & Emmett C. Blunt infant children
of Thomas Blunt dec'd - Henry B. Lusher infant
son of Isaac Lusher & his late wife Betsey - to
appear before the justices of our said County Court
of Isle of Wight at the Court House on the first
Monday in May next being Court day to answer a Bill
in Chancery in the said Court of Isle of Wight County
exhibited against them by John P. Thomas, Guardian
for Vincent C. Blunt, James I. Blunt & Mary J. Blunt
orphans and infants of John Blunt dec'd. If the
said defendants shall fail to answer the Complaint
in said Bill aforesaid within four months from
the service of this subpoena in Chancery, the allega-
tions in the said Bill contained, will be taken
as confessed & the Court will proceed to decree
accordingly & have then this writ withupstated
Having Clerk of our said Court of Isle of Wight
County at the Court House the 8th day of April 1833
in the 57 year of Commonwealth.

Nathl. Young

Paid 10

To The sh. of Norfolk County

Smithfield Va
Ct 9th

the sh. m. will please cause
this to be sold as soon as he can.
(a. atk.)

saye)

Portsmouth

Blunts vs. Gains

vs.

Wm. Sp. m. Chy.

Booth & wife vs. Thomas

To Mary-Isabel Wright
County Court 1835

Mary-Isabel

to be executed on etc. Courner, ~~the while~~
only and forwarded to me
by mail. A. Atkinson atty. for
re/sr: — — — the sh. need not
make any return as to the balance.

Executed on My Conner & Henry Spall D.S.
29th Oct. 1835 for Wm. Manning sh.

The commonwealth of Virginia to the Sheriff of Norfolk County
Greeting we command you to summon Blaiborne Booth and
Frances M. his wife & Vincent C. Blunt, James I. Blunt and Mary
F. Blunt infants - Catharine Bonner, Hamilton Crocker, and
Julius Crocker infant children of Sampson Crocker and his late wife
Sally - Richard Crocker & Mapalon Crocker infant children of
William Crocker and his late wife Polly, Cornelia Blunt & Virginia
Blunt infant children of Josiah Blunt decd. Henry S. Blunt,
Jennings A. Blunt, William C. Blunt, Richard Blunt, Joseph Blunt,
Baptist B. Blunt, Littleton A. Blunt and Jennett E. Blunt infant
children of Thomas Blunt decd. Henry B. Sewer infant son of Isaac
Sewer and his late wife Betsey - to appear before the Justices of our said
county court of Isle of Wight at the court House on the first Monday
in May next being court day - to answer a Bill in chancery in the
said Court of Isle of Wight County exhibited against them by John P.
Thomas Guardian for Vincent C. Blunt, James Josiah Blunt and
Mary F. Blunt orphans and infants of John Blunt decd. - And
if the said defendants shall fail to answer the complainant's Bill
aforesaid within four months from the service of this subpoena
in chancery, the allegations in the said Bill contained will
be taken as confessed & the court will proceed to decree accord-
ingly - And have then there this writ writing Nathaniel
Young clerk of our said court of Isle of Wight County at the
court House, the 8th day of April 1835 in the 59th Year
of the commonwealth

Nathl. Young
Clerk

Mr Claiborne W Booth & wife acknow-
-ledge service hereof - given under
our hands this day of July 1835.

(Signed)
Claiborne Booth

Frances M Booth

Legal service acknowledged by me -

Nathl Young Gov. as attorney
to the infants

John
M. R. H. v.
Heunt & Co.

Nathl & Young guardians ad litem to

To Claiborne Booth and Francis de his wife
Nathl. Young who is the guardian addit^l
to Vincent B. Blunt, James Josiah Blunt and
Mary F. Blunt, Hamilton Crocker and
Julius Crocker, Richard and Macalson
Crocker, Cornelia and Virginia Blunt,
Henry L. Blunt, James A. Blunt, W. B. Blunt,
Richard Blunt, Joseph Blunt, Bassett B.
Blunt Leunitt & Blunt, and Littleton
A. Blunt, & Henry B. Leven and Catha-
-rine Courten - Take notice, that on
the first Saturday in August next,
between the hours of 8 o'clock in the
morning and 7 o'clock p.m. of the
same day at the ~~office of the~~ ~~office of the~~
~~office of the~~ in the town of Smithfield
and County of Alb. of Wight, I shall
proceed to take the deposition of
William Atkinson, Francis Ward,
Josiah F. Meun, Bartholomew Light-
-foot, Thomas Meun and others to
be read as evidenced in the recit in the
County Court of Alb. of Wight, on the char-
-acter side, in which I am p.p. and
you are respondents - & if from
any cause the said evidence shall
not be taken on the day aforesaid, it
will be taken at the same place on the
second Saturday in August next, &
between the same hours of the day.

July 10. 1835

Wm. B.
John P. Thomas Esq.
of Vincent B. Blunt, James
Josiah Blunt & Mary F.
Blunt.

Executed -
By serving
with a copy -

To Catharine Cornum - was an, take
 notice, that at the office of Archibald
 Atkinson in the town of Smithfield
 and County of Isle of Wight, on the first
 Saturday in August next, between
 the hours of 8 o'clock A.M. & 4 o'clock
 P.M. of the same day, shall take the expo-
 -sition, of William Atkinson, Francis
 Maria Maria & Meneu, Bartholomew
 Lightfoot, Thomas Meneu & others to be
 read as evidence in the suit in the
 County Court of Isle of Wight on the Chy.
 side in which I am plaintiff and on
 and others are defendants. If from
 any cause, the said exposition shall
 not be taken on the day aforesaid, they
 will be taken at the same place &
 between the same hours of the day
 on the second Saturday in August
 next.

July 10. 1835.

Wm. L.
 John P. Thomas
 Geo. for Vincent C
 Blunt, James Smith
 Blunt & Mary F
 Blunt

Sofolk County Jcy. This day, came before
 the undersigned, a justice for said County,
 Wm. D. Britton ^{deputy for Com. B. Manning} who made oath
 that on the 20th day of July 1835, he
 delivered to Catharine Cornum, a true
 copy of the above notice. Given under my
 hand and seal this 20th day of July
 1835. —

M. Manning

(J. B.)

John P. Thomas
Esq. by 3 depos.
7 3
Bost. &c.

August 14th. 1835 Deposition
came to hand under cover sealed.
Filed.

a long credit may 12 mos. if a
fee simple could be conveyed free from
any incumbrance; the ^{land} would not
rent for more than \$40 per annum
for a term of years, and the part
which he understands belongs to the
children in possession would not
rent for more than about \$15 per
annum (the widows share being
as he understands set apart entirely
on this tract of land leaving a tract
in view to the children) The land
if rented out in the usual way
in the neighborhood would be lessened
in value before the children would
arrive to the age of 21. He thinks
the interest of the children would
be materially promoted if their
interest could be sold for \$1000
as that sum placed at interest
would in his opinion amount to
more than the value of the land
at the death of Mrs. North. —

(Signed, John Coleman)

Signed before me a justice of the peace
for the County of Edge of North Carolina this 1st day of Aug. 1835
La. C. Jordan (P)

Deponent of Mr. H. Gibbs to the in her oga.
- being administered to John Coleman on
on the first page, & to be read in the
case therein mentioned.

This deponent on his oath says
he is acquainted with Vincent, James and Mary Bleunt
infant children of John Bleunt; and he also knows
the plantation in Edge of North County on James River
on which their father died possessed, the value

of the said plantation consists mainly in the houses
and Orchard. If the said plantation were rented out
from year to year until the children should arrive
at the age of twenty one years, and cultivated according
to the usual course of husbandry in that neighbor-
hood the aforesaid property would greatly decrease
in value. I do not think the whole plantation one year
with another would rent for more than seventy five
dollars. If the part which I understand allotted to the
children be alone rented out its annual value
would not exceed thirty dollars. — Under the circum-
stances of the case I think that the interest of the children
would be greatly benefited from the sale of said property

(Signed,
William H. Gibbs)

Subscribed before me a justice of the peace
for the County of Edge of North Carolina this 1st day of Aug. 1835
at the office of John Coleman, Justice of the Peace in the said
County of Edge of North Carolina, in which
John P. Thomas for of Vincent, James
Irish and Mary Bleunt is plaintiff
and Vincent Bleunt & others are defendants.
Given under my hand and seal of this
1st day of August 1835. —

La. C. Jordan (P)

the widow of John Bleant, to wit, Mrs Booth
- and what is the absolute per simple value
of the said land on a credit of twelve
months? what is the age of Mrs Booth
the mother of Vincent James, and Henry
Bleant? Is the farm on the rise in value
might valuable mainly for the woods &
orchards, and would the said farm
if rented out in the usual way until
the children become of age, be worth
probably what it would now sell for
or would it probably decrease very
much in value? make ten answers
to the questions, -

The foregoing interrogatories were agreed upon by me to be used as evidence in the case aforesaid

N. Young Esq. Ad. Att. to the infants

Bureau of John Alpers on. - I know the
 children; Vincent is 18, Isaac is about 7,
 Mary Frances is about 5; I knew them farther;
 his land in Isler's right on which he died
 is worth in fee simple, 10 dollars per acre, there
 are 2 under Stan 210 acres which make, 2100; if
 the hole land was rented out from year to
 year until the youngest child should be
 21 year of age it would it would probably rent
 for 75 dollars per year. Take out the widows
 dower, that part a lot of the children would
 probly bring 20 dollars per year. Mr Booth is
 about 38 year & is quite healthy - if the land
 in question was rented out in the usual way
 and cultivated in the usual corn husbandry
 in the neighborhood, it would very much decrease
 in value, the orchard is a very fine one and in order
 to keep it good it should be well manured & cultivated

- and I am of the opinion under the circumstances
of the case that the ~~best~~ circumstances
of the Chicom will be promoted by the sale
of the land. - (signed, Wm. Atkinson

Who of the County for - This 1st August 1895
the foregoing was read in court by me
Attorney on before me, after his name
to speak the truth and to be read
as evidence as stated in the preamble
to this exposition - Given under my
hand and seal as a justice of the
peace for said County this said
first day of August 1895. —

(signed)
La. C. Jordan (P)

The deposition of Jane Holman taken on the first Saturday in August 1835, at the Office of D. P. Thomas in Smithfield, to be read as evidence in the suit alluded to & mentioned in the preamble to the interrogatories to James, sons of Mr. Atkinson herein before given - This deponent after his oath, says that he knew Mrs. Blount in his lifetime, he also knows Mrs. Booth and ~~her children~~ Mrs. Blount's children slightly, he believes the ages of Mrs. Booth and Blount's children to be about what they have been stated to be in the answers of Mr. Atkinson, he understands the plantation sought to be sold contains 210 acres he thinks it might well for be between \$2000 and \$2500: if sold on

Interrogatories framed and agreed upon between the p[ar]ties who is John P Thomas guardian for Vincent B Bleunt, James Josiah Bleunt and Mary F Bleunt, and Nathl. Vosey Bleunt of the County Court of Sh[er]iff Wright and guardian as before to Vincent B Bleunt, James Josiah Bleunt and Mary F Bleunt, Hamilton Crocker and Julius Crocker, Peter and Mapalon Crocker, Cornelius & Virginia Bleunt, Mary A Bleunt, James A Bleunt, Wm B Bleunt, Nichd. Bleunt, Joseph Bleunt, Rufett B Bleunt, Lemuel E Bleunt, Littleton A Bleunt, Mary Rebecca L. ~~Catharine~~ who are infants, in the suit in the County Court of Sh[er]iff Wright in chancery, wherein the said John P Thomas guardian as aforesaid is p[ar]ty and the said infants and Catharine Corn is defendant. At the Office of Asst. Attorney first ~~interrogatory~~ in the town of New Hope and County of Sh[er]iff Wright on his first day and first Saturday in August 1835 between the hours of 8 o'clock A.M. & 4 o'clock of the evening of the same day - First interrogatory to Wm. Allen, or after he was sworn on the holy Evangelist of almighty God the truth to speak. - Do you know Vincent B Bleunt, James Josiah Bleunt and Mary F Bleunt infant children of John Bleunt decd; did you know their father and if so say what is the probable age of each child - what is the annual value of the whole land in Sh[er]iff Wright whereon their father died, and what is the annual value of the part independent of the house of

Blind 848. 3/4
" 2 1/2
Blind 2

To the Judge of the Circuit Superior Court of Law and Chancery for the County of Isabella. The undersigned respectfully report that agreeably to the several orders of the Court aforesaid we the undersigned have examined the lands in Lorry and Isabella whereof John Blunt died Seignor with the view to allot Dover to his Widow Mariah T. Blunt and have as and for her dower allotted to her the land in Isabella a part of the manor plantation and include within the boundaries and limits following that is to say beginning at two small cedars on the river bank and running near a south course to a cherry tree on the break or meadow thence across the meadow to a cherry tree in the field thence a straight line to the road thence up the road to Jas. Wilsons line thence along James & Samue Wilsons lines to the river shore thence down the shore to the beginning.

Ino. L. Brown
James Wilson
Philip Smith

Alfred T. Cole

Wm. H. H. H.

Pursuant to the annuad decree of the Hon^d Court of Isle of Wight County, After advertising the Lands in the said decree mentioned, at Smithfield, the Court House, in the Norfolk Beacon Vothur place for more than one month, I did on the 5th day of December 1835 expose the land to highest bidder: and Claiborne Booth became the highest bidder at Two thousands and twenty dollars - that after deducting the costs of the suit and sale from that amount, I divided the nett proceeds into four equal parts, as may be seen below, and allotted and paid over to Claiborne Booth One fourth for which I herewith file his receipt - and I then divided the other three fourth equally between Vincent C. Blunt, James Josiah Blunt and Mary F. Blunt, and took two bonds with security payable to each of them, one bond payable in Twelve months from the date, and the other payable in two years from the date, but to carry interest from and after the lapse of twelve months from the date; which bonds are herewith returned to the court, subject to its order - all which is respectfully reported to the court -

Dec^r. 7th 1835

Harb^r. Young Com^r.

Am^t. of Sale of Land \$2020. 00

Am^t. of Costs of the suit

137. 50

Val^e -

41862. 50

465. 02½

465. 02½

465. 62½

465. 02½

Booths & wife's proportion

Vincent C. Blunt's

James J. Blunt's

Mary F. Blunt's

Cont: of M^r: P. Thomas
Voy: ship to M^r: Platts
Orphans.

Isles of Night County Court,

I do hereby certify that at a Court held for the said county
the 2nd day of March 1835 Vincent C. Blunt Orphan of John Blunt dead: with
the approbation of the Court made choice of John P. Thomas as ^{his} Guardian,
and the Court also assigned the said John P. Thomas Guardian to James I. and
Mary Frances Blunt Orphans of the said John Blunt dead: and thereupon the
said John P. Thomas together with Richard S. Thomas and Claiborne Booth
his securities who justified on oath as to their sufficiency, entered into and
acknowledged their bond in the penalty of Ten thousand dollars with a condition
therein according to law. — Given under my hand this 15th day of
April 1835. —

Nath^l Young clk W.C.
" " "

John p Thomas for Vincent B. Bleant,
James Josiah Bleant, Mary Frances Bleant
or Claiborn W Booth and Frank de Booth
his wife, and Vincent B Bleant, James Jos.
Bleant and Mary F Bleant infants -

Catharine Courner an agent, Hamilton Crocker,
and Julia Crocker
children of Sampson Courner this last wife of
Nicholas Crocker, Mapalon Crocker, children of
Polly Bleant, Cornelia Virginia Bleant
children of Josiah Bleant, Henry & Bleant, Lewis & Bleant
Mr. B. Bleant, Nich. Bleant, Joseph Bleant, Baptist B. Bleant, Joseph & Bleant
children of Thomas Bleant, Henry B. Leaven
and det. A. Bleant &
sister of Henry Leaven

The infant have a tract of land in Perry
440 acres - help equals to their value
- for plantation in 1800 210 and
the widow had allotted to her her whole share
in that - they have negroes worth \$250 -

Lewis	\$250
do	\$500 -
do	600
Bonaparte	400
John	400
do	400
<u>total</u>	<u>2550</u>

hu ————— \$25

postage ————— ~~7.75~~

Tokyo 30 September 15.00

tax ————— 40.75

————— 50
—————
41.25

Joel Hollerman Gov. to Blunts
his — 3
to 3 receipt for
N. Young cer. 3 Bonds —

1991

November 7th 1838 In accordance with a decree of the court of Isle of Wight
County pronounced the 5th day of this present month in the suit in Chancery of
John Blunt heirs by Geo. P. Thomas their Co: as litig against Claiborn
Booth and wife Mothers, I have received of Nathaniel Young clerk of the said
Court the Bonds due to the heirs of the said John Blunt, and which
said Bonds were taken for their net proportions of the sale of said
Geo. Blunt's lands agreeably to a decree in the said mentioned suit
entered the first day of November Court 1835; and was returned by the
Commissioner ~~mentioned~~ named in the last mentioned decree to the Court,
and filed for safe keeping & the further order of the Court —

The bonds are as follows (to wit) two bonds due by Claiborn Booth & John C. Brum
to Vincent B. Blunt, two bonds due to James J. Blunt from the same, and two
bonds due to Mary J. Blunt from the same, each bond being for \$232.87½ —

Attest
N. P. Young

Geo. J. Holloman
Secy of Vincent
Jas. & Mary Blunt

~~any of the~~ who is for that purpose appointed a Court,
 having published notice of the time and place of sale
 for at least one month, by advertisement in one of
 the newspapers published in the County of Norfolk, and
 advertising the same in the town of Smithfield
 and at such other place as he may think best
 proceed to sell to the highest bidder on a credit
 of 12 months, the house to be money payable as follows, to wit, one half
 at month after sale the other half 2 years after, and that with 10% of the
 required to signify expenses of the Court of the said
 which will be for cash, the interest of the said time
 Court, James and Mary Bleant to the said
 plantation of the late John Bleant, ~~being~~
 lying on James river in the County of Stafford
 and being the land in the bill mentioned.
 And the Court also adj. ord. and decree that
 the Court take of the said James, for the credit of said
 house with good security, ~~one of~~ ^{one of} ~~the~~ ^{house} ~~part~~
~~part of the~~ ^{part of the} ~~best~~ ^{best} ~~part~~ ^{part} ~~of the~~ ^{of the} ~~house~~ ^{house} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~be~~ ^{be} ~~paid~~ ^{paid} ~~to~~ ^{to} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~Court~~ ^{Court} ~~for~~ ^{for} ~~the~~ ^{the} ~~same~~ ^{same}
 and to set, Vincent & Bleant, James, John Bleant
 and Mary & Bleant, and that the Court retain
 a lien on the land to secure the said house money
 and the Court is directed to have the said house sold to
 to be filed subject to the order of the said Court.

Bleant & Co
 Bleant & Co
 Bleant & Co

John P. Thomas, Jr. for Vincent C. Bleunt, James Josiah Bleunt
& Mary F. Bleunt in Claiborne Booth and Francis his wife,
Vincent C. James Josiah, and Mary F. Bleunt,
Hamilton Crocker and Lulien Crocker, Richard
and Mapalon Crocker, Lulien Cornelia
and Virginia Bleunt, Mary A. Bleunt, James
A. Bleunt, M. C. Bleunt, Nicks. Bleunt, Joseph
Bleunt, Robert B. Bleunt, Jewett B. Bleunt,
Littleton A. Bleunt, and Mary B. Leven
and Catharine Couner ———— etc.

The subpoena in this cause has
been executed and the bill filed more than
4 months, and the defendants Catharine
Couner, Claiborne Booth and Francis his
wife still fail to appear and answer,
the bill of the complainant is taken for confessed
against them, and this cause came on
to be this day heard on the bill of the
complaint, the answer of the infant
by their counsel, replications thereto
exhibits filed and the exposition of
Atkinson, Joel Holman & M. G. Smith
and was argued by counsel on
consideration whereof, the court being of
opinion from the evidence in the case
that the intent of the infant defendants
by Vincent James and Mary F. Bleunt
manifestly requires the sale of the real
estate in the bill named, that the interest
of the said Vincent, James and Mary Bleunt will
be thereby advanced, and that the rights of others
will not thereby be violated, the court doth say, and
order that the said ————

for one fourth part of the net amount of sale, & pay that to Elizabeth
Booth & wife, and divide the balance into three equal parts or shares one
third with security payable to each of the infants (to wit, Vincent C. Blunt,
James Josiah Blunt, & Mary J. Blunt) & that the commissioners retain a lien
on the land to secure the purchase money, and the Commissioner is directed
to bring the said bonds for the infants into court to be filed subject to the order
of the said court & make report thereof to the court in order to a final
decree.

Clerks fee's
atto:

\$8.80

Attest

Nathl. Young Clk.

Blunt & others of Sep
vs Geo
Blunt & others

December 11th 1835 rept.
with sundry bonds
returned & cont.

In His Majesty's County Court November Term 1835
John P Thomas Guardian for Vincent & Anne Ariak
Blunt, & Mary F Blunt,
against

Com p'tt

In Chy.

Clairborne Booth and Francis his wife, Vincent & Anne
Ariak, and Mary F Blunt, Hamilton Crocker, Julius
Crocker, Richard and Mispalen Crocker, Cornelia and
Virginia Blunt, Henry L Blunt, James A Blunt, W
C Blunt, Richard Blunt, Joseph Blunt, Robert B Blunt
Ann F Blunt, Lillian F Blunt and Henry B Saver
and Catherine Conner

Defendants

The Subpoena in this cause having been executed and the bill
filed more than four months ago, the defendants Catherine Conner,
Clairborne Booth, and Francis his wife, still failing to appear and answer
the bill of the complainant is taken for confessed against them, and this cause
came on to be heard on the bill of the complainant, the answer of the
infant defendants by their guardian addition, replications thereto, exhibits filed
and the depositions of William Atkinson, Jas. G. Gossman, & Wm. G. Gibbs and
was argued by counsel. On consideration thereof, the court being of opinion
from the evidence in the cause that the interest of the infant defendants
Vincent, James and Mary F Blunt manifestly requires the sale of the
real estate in the bill named, that the interest of the said Vincent,
James, and Mary Blunt will be thereby advanced, and that the rights
of others will not thereby be violated, the court doth adjudge order and
decree that Nathaniel Young who is for that purpose appointed a com-
missioner having published notice of the time and place of sale for
at least one month, by advertisement in one of the newspapers pub-
lished in the Borough of Norfolk, and by advertising the same in the
Town of Smithfield, and at such other places as he may think best,
proceed to sell to the highest bidder on a credit one & two years, except
for so much as will be required to defray the expenses of this suit, and of
the sale, which will be for cash, the bonds to be made payable as
follows, to wit, one bond twelve months after date, the other bond two years
after date, but with interest thereon from one year after the date, the
interest of the said Vincent, James, and Mary Blunt & the said Booth
& wife in the manner plantations of the late John Blunt lying on James
River in the county of Norfolk and being the lands in the bill mentioned
and the court also adjudge order and decree that the commissioner take
of the purchase for the credit part four bonds with good security, one

22
decree

John P Thomas guardian for Vincent C Blect,
James Josiah Blect, Mary F Blect p^{ss}.

24

Claiborne Bostw and James Liverip, Vincent C
Blect, James Josiah Blect, and Mary F Blect,
Hamilton Crocker, Julius Crocker, Michael &
Uapalon Crocker, Cornelia Virginia
Blect, Henry L Blect, James A Blect,
Mr C Blect, Michael Blect, Joseph Blect,
Robert B Blect, James E Blect, Littleton
A Blect, and Henry Blevins & Catharine
Counes

depts.

This cause came on this day to be
again heard on the papers formerly read &
the report of the Com. made pursuant to
the order of the day of Oct. 1835 to which
no exception has been filed or argued
by Counsel. On consideration whereof
the Court doth confirm the said report
& order that the same stand firm between
the parties - and that the costs be paid
out of the estate of the infants for whom
the p^{ss}. Thomas is guardian - and it
appears to the C. that the bonds taken
for the purchase money have been well
secured, the C. doth order that the Com.
make a deed to the purchaser without
warranty - and this cause is retained
for further order as to disposition of
the proceeds of the sale -

Recd.

3 3/4 d.
Recd.

New.

W. H. H. H.

W. H. H. H.

W. H. H. H.

March 22nd 1835

Dear Sir I enclose to you the names of Thomas
Blunt's Children Sampson Crocker's and Elizabeth's Sons

Thomas Blunt's Children first Henry & Stuart

Innings & Blunt

Wm C Blunt

Richard Blunt

Joseph Blunt

First wife's Children

Baptist B Blunt

Ernest C Blunt

Littleton & Blunt making

& all that that Thomas Blunt had

The names of Sampson Crocker's — Hamilton's Crocker's

I all that Sampson & } Luke Crocker making

Lever Child is named Henry B. Lever, one is all making

in all a 11th Children, I think I understood you

to say the other day in Springfield, that you were sorry

there were so many parties, for what reason, I did not

have your say, But if it was making, more difficult to

get a decree to sell the land, the hunt must be up now,

But I hope that was not the reason

Yours &c
Editha B. Barth

John F. Thomas's bond as
Secy to Vincent Co. Blount Co.
to out the proceeds of the sale
of land according to law

