

1908-015 Chancery Cause: Elizabeth Branch, John + al
Isl of Wight County by + c, + John J. S. Branch

vs William E. Branch + Louise Branch,

Other Surnames: Minton
Edwards, Marrable, Parker
Barrett, Robinson, Read
Grimes, Chapman, Fulgham,
Latimer

Chapman's Branch Wm H & als
3

Dismissed June 1, 1908

32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Branch rules.
Complaints Bill.

Filed Nov. 6th 1899

2^d October rules 1899.

Answer of R. J. Thomas got admitted
do Mr. Branch & J. J. Branch de nisi

1st Nov. Rules Bill filed.
and taken for confession and
case set for hearing

Nov. 18th 1899 Vacation de fer
accounts

January 8^d 1900 Vacation de fer
confg. rept. to sell &c.

April term 1900 de. for enquiry
as to sale of land

Oct: term 1900 Re. Confg Repts.
with and bonds called 1st pay out

April term 1901 de to enquest. dehorst
& pay out

Oct term 1901 de. confg rept &c

1 it will be to the best interest of all parties interested

2 The heirs of the said infants ~~on the part of the father~~ ^{Elizabeth Branch} ~~and the said land~~
3 ~~and~~ ^{are} the complainants, Helen Mable, Emma Edwina Lillian
4 Martin Sarah Branch and James M Branch and the defendant John J
5 In their consideration whereof your complainants pray that William Branch
6 and Louise Branch infants under the age of 21 years, and John J Branch be
7 made parties defendant to this bill and required to answer the several statements
8 (with us to the defendant John J Branch as prayed)
9 thereof that a guardian ad litem be assigned to the said infants defendants
10 to defend their interests in this suit, and who shall see that this bill
11 that proper process issue and all proper orders and decrees and inquiries
12 may be directed, that the said land may be sold and the pro-
13 ceeds invested as the court shall direct, that proper allowances
14 of counsel fees may be made in this suit and that all such other
15 further and general relief may be afforded your complainants
16 as the nature of their case may require or to equity shall
17 seem meet and your complainants well ever pray do

Elizabeth Branch
her P. Attorney by

19 City of Newport News to wit

20 This day personally appeared before me, the undersigned ^{a Notary Public} ~~a Justice of the~~
21 ~~peace~~ for the said City Elizabeth Branch guardian of William Branch and
22 Louise Branch and made oath that she believes the several statements
23 made in the foregoing bill to be true.

24 Given under my hand this 28 day of October 1899

Edwarren. Notary Public

1 To the Honorable Robert R. Poynter Judge of the Circuit Court of Isle of
2 Wight County,

3 Complaining then unto the court your complainants, Elizabeth
4 Branch in her own right and as guardian of William Branch and Louise
5 Branch who are infants under the age Twenty one years, Edward Marshall
6 and three in his wife, William Edwards and Emma his wife M R Minton Jr
7 and Lillian his wife, Sarah Branch and James M Branch, that your
8 complaint Elizabeth Branch is seized for life of a tract of land situated in
9 Isle of Wight County and State of Virginia with remainder in fee of three fourths
10 thereof to your complainants William Marshall, Emma Edwards, Lillian
11 Minton Sarah Branch and the infant defendants hereinafter named
12 William Branch and Louise Branch, the children of the said Elizabeth
13 Branch and her late husband James Branch, equally to be divided among
14 them, and with remainder in fee of the other fourth part thereof to your
15 complainant James M Branch, as well appears by a duly certified
16 copy of the deed and the certificate of the record above shown in the clerk's
17 office of the County Court of Isle of Wight County, executed by George
18 F Hall and Mary his wife and bearing date on the 2nd day of October
19 1885, heretofore filed and prayed to be taken as part of this bill.

20 That the said tract of land is described in the said deed as situated in the
21 County of Isle of Wight and known as the "Butts" tract, containing by or
22 say two hundred and fourteen acres more or less, except that portion
23 of the said tract which is occupied and used as the house or road lead
24 ing from the Old Swan road to the Dover tract owned by the said Hall
25 which house or road twenty feet wide and is to be used hereinafter as the prop
26 erty of the said George F Hall.

27 That the said tract of land consists mainly of wood land and as
28 any small portions of it being cleared or opened and very little here
29 or income ^{is derived} from it, and as the said Elizabeth Branch has resided
30 in the City of Newport News and desires to sell the same hereinafter your
31 complainants use of the opinion and to desire that the said tract shall
32 be sold and the proceeds thereof be invested ^{in real estate} in the said City, believing

Branch Gov. res
as 15

Branch res

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32

Amended Bill
and
Exhibit

1 notified and confirmed ~~as well as the agreement made between the said~~
2 Elizabeth Branch and James M. Branch, and the ~~agreement~~ ^{three fourths}
3 of the proceeds of the said land be invested in ~~the~~ real estate in the City of
4 Newport News in the name of the said Elizabeth Branch for life with
5 remainder to the said Helen Branch, Emma Edwards, Lillian Martin,
6 ^{if they legally die, and to the said James M. Branch of my fourth third}
7 Sarah Branch, William Branch and Louise Branch, and your own
8 commands will be obeyed.

Wm. R. Robinson Jr.

10 City of Newport News to wit

11 This day personally appeared before me a Notary Public of the said City
12 in the State of Virginia, Elizabeth Branch guardian of William Branch
13 and Louise Branch and made oath that she believes the several state
14 records made in the foregoing bill are true,
15 Given under my hand this 16 day of June 1905.

W. E. Barrett

Notary Public

1 the day of ^{offspring} and on the 3rd day of 1900 the court by its decree of
2 that date confirmed said decree and directed George P. Williams on the same
3 same appeared for that purpose to sell the said land, and the said court
4 afterwards to wit on the 5th day of March 1900 after viewing the said
5 land as directed by the said decree ^{did} offer the said land for sale at public auction
6 at the front door of the court house of Isle of Wight county on the terms pre-
7 scribed by the said decree and the said James M. Branch having bid the
8 sum of \$15.25 and that being the highest bid was declared the purchaser
9 and has complied with the terms of said sale.
10 That after said sale attention was called to the fact that through some want
11 of due diligence on the part of the said Williams and George P. Williams
12 Plaintiff Elizabeth Branch had been notified and was and in fact gave
13 notice of her claim on the said Williams and George Branch but she has since
14 done so as will appear by the certified copy of the order of her qualification
15 in the Corporation Court of the City of Newport News marked A and prayed to
16 be taken as part of this bill.
17 Your complainants are fully satisfied and believe that the said land has
18 sold for not only its price but its ^{full} value and the same should stand
19 ~~and to effect that end the said Elizabeth Branch who owns the like estate~~
20 ~~therein and the said James M. Branch the purchaser and George P. Williams~~
21 ~~as aforesaid of one fourth of the net proceeds of the net proceeds of said~~
22 ~~land of have agreed that if the said sale should be confirmed, for shall return~~
23 ~~one fourth part thereof and the same should be invested in real~~
24 estate in the City of Newport News in the name of the said Elizabeth
25 Branch for life with remainder to James M. Branch and of three fourths
26 Edwards, Lillian Weston, Sarah Branch, William Branch and Louis
27 Branch, ^{in joint shares,} Your complainants therefore pray that the said William
28 Branch and Louis Branch who are infants and John F. Branch be
29 made defendants to this bill and be added to the same, that the
30 same as the grand juror ad litem heretofore appointed be assigned to defend
31 the interests of the said infants and shall also answer the said bill,
32 that the sale of the said land to the said James M. Branch be hereby

1 To the Honorable Robert R. Pruett Judge of the General Court of Isle of Wight
2 County

3 The undersigned and supplemental bill of game complaints
4 Elizabeth Branch in her own right and as guardian of her infant
5 children William Branch aged 19 years and Louis Branch aged 10
6 years Edmund Marble and Helen his wife Wallace Edwards and Em
7 ma his wife, M R Minton and Lillian his wife, Sarah Branch
8 and James M Branch, respectfully sheweth to the Court that they hereto
9 fore exhibited to this Court Their original bill of complaint against the
10 said William Branch and Louis Branch infants under 21 years of age
11 and John F S Branch defendants, showing that the said Elizabeth Branch
12 is seized of a life estate in a certain tract of land situated in the County
13 of Isle of Wight known as "Belts" with remainder of three parts
14 three of to the said Helen Marble, Emma Edwards, Lillian Minton, Sarah
15 Branch William Branch and Louise Branch ^{her children} in equal shares of
16 ~~three parts~~ one fourth thereof to the said James M Branch, alleging
17 that the said complaints Helen Marble Emma Edwards Lillian Minton
18 and Sarah Branch James M Branch and the defendant John F S Branch
19 are the only heirs of the said infants and that it would be to the interest
20 of all parties interested in said land and praying that the said Court
21 should by its order and the persons named in and relate in its report there.

22 That R S Haines was appointed guardian of said three to the infants defendants
23 and answered the bill ^{for himself} as such guardian of them and the said William Branch
24 who is now fourteen years of age as well as the adult defendant and John F S
25 Branch who was seized the said well in their proper persons to which the said
26 bills related generally and the said cause coming on by consent ^{to be heard} on the
27 8th day of November 1844 it was ordered by the Court that a commission
28 in chancery of the said Court should inquire and report whether the interest of
29 the infant defendants would be promoted by a sale of the said property or of any
30 part thereof and the management of the proceeds in other property and whether
31 the rights of any person will be violated by such sale and the said Commission
32 reported affirmatively and that the said land was worth \$1000. and
in chancery having filed his report in the clerk's office of said Court on

Branch, Glen Falls

4

ms

Branch, Glen Falls.

Answer of

R S Thorne as guardian as letter
and of defendant defendants
by their guardian as letter.

Filed Nov. 6th 1899

The answer of R. S. Thomas guardian ad litem of William Branch
and Louise Branch infants under the age of 21 years, and the
answer of the said infant defendants William Branch and Louise
Branch by the said R. S. Thomas their guardian ad litem, in the bill
in equity exhibited in the Circuit Court of Isle of Wight County, against
the said William Branch and Louise Branch and others, by ^{the said} ~~the said~~
said Branch in his own right and as guardian of William Branch
and Louise Branch, Edward M. Noble and Helen his wife Wallace Ed.
Noble and Emma his wife M. R. Minton and Lillian his wife, Sarah
Branch and James M. Branch

For answer to the said bill the said guardian ad litem answers
and says that he does not know whether the interest of the in-
fant defendants would be promoted by the sale of the property, as
prayed for in the said bill or not, and the said infant defendants by
their said guardian ad litem answers and says that being infants
of tender years they know nothing of the matters mentioned in
the bill and commit the protection of their interest to the court
and now having answered they pray for

R. S. Thomas guardian ad litem to
William Branch & Louise Branch

Isle of Wight County to wit

This day personally appeared before me, the undersigned, a justice of the
peace of the said county, R. S. Thomas guardian ad litem of William
Branch and Louise Branch and made oath that he believes the sever-
al statements made in the foregoing answer to be true
given under my hand this 8th day of October 1849.

M. F. Jordan JP

Branch 1000 vol
5

no

Branch 1000
volume of
William Branch. 1000 in
and was 14 years of age.

Filed Nov. 6th 1899

The answer of William Branch, an infant defendant under
over the age of fourteen years to a bill in equity exhibited ~~before~~
against him and others in the General Court of Isle of Wight
county by Elizabeth Branch in her own right and as guardian
decur of the said William Branch, Edward Mansble and
John his wife, Wallace Edwards and Emma his wife M R
Munroff and Lillian his wife, Sarah Branch and James M
Branch

For answer to the said bill The said William Branch answers and
says that although under full age he believes he knows what
are his interests in the matter referred to in the bill; he believes the
statements in said bill are true and that it will be to his advantage
to let the land as therein prayed for and revert the proceeds
of sale in other property. And now having fully answered he prays
leave to be dismissed &c

William. E. Branch

City of Newport claims to wit

This day personally before me, the undersigned ^{Notary Public} a ~~justice~~ of the
peace for the said City, William Branch and made oath that he
believes the several statements made in the foregoing answer
to be true

Given under my hand the 28 day of October 1899

Geoarren Notary Public

Brown & Co
6

16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32

Brown & Co
Messrs of
John & S Brown

Filed Nov. 6th 1899

1 The answer of John F Branch to a bill in equity exhibited against him
2 and others in the Circuit court of Isle of Wight county by Elizabeth Branch
3 in her own right and as guardian of William Branch and Louise Branch
4 infants under the age of twenty one years, Edward Warrble and his
5 wife, William Edwards and Emma his wife M Minton Jr and John
6 his wife and James M Branch.

7 For answer to the said bill the said John F Branch appears and says
8 that he has no objection to the sale of the land in the said bill mentioned
9 and the investment of the proceeds thereof as the court may direct,
10 and now having fully answered he prays leave to be dismissed &c

11 John F. Branch
12
13
14
15
16
17

16

Bornum Lvs

15

Bornum Lvs

Assum of

John & S Bornum

Winnipeg Bilt.

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

The answer of John J. Branch is as amended and supplemental hereto in equity exhibited against him and others in the Circuit Court of Isle of Wight County by Elizabeth Branch in her own right and as guardian of William Branch and Louis Branch, infants under 21 years of age, Edward Marshall and Helen his wife, Wallace Edwards and Emma his wife, M. P. Munion and Lillian his wife Sarah Branch and James M. Branch.

For answer to the said bill the said John J. Branch answers and says that he has no objections to the sale and confirmation thereof of the land in the said bill mentioned nor of the proceeds thereof as the Court may direct, and now having fully answered he prays leave to be dismissed.

John J. Branch

Branch Lumber 17

Branch Lumber

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32

Amount of
William Branch
we expect over 14 years ago
to amount to Bill.

1 The answer of William Branch we referred def and was over the age of four
2 ten years to an amended and supplemental bill ^{in equity} exhibited against him and
3 others in the last court of Isle of Wight county by Elizabeth Branch is his
4 own right and is grandsons of the said William Branch and of Louisa Branch
5 an infant, Edward Marshall and Helen his wife, Wallace Edwards and Emma
6 his wife, W. D. Marshall Jr and Lillian his wife Sarah Branch and James M
7 Branch

8 For answer to the said amended and supplemental Bill the said William
9 Branch answers and says that although under full age he believes he
10 knowing what are his interests in the matter referred to in the bill, he believes the
11 statements in the said bill are true and that will be to his advantage to see
12 the bill laid and confirm the sale already made as there was prayed for and in
13 out the proceeds of sale in other property, and now having fully understood
14 he prays hence to be dismissed &c.

William E Branch

City of Chesford Texas to wit

18 This day has duly appeared before us the undersigned a Notary Public for the
19 said City in the State of Virginia, William Branch who made oath that he
20 believes the several statements in the foregoing answer to be true,
21 hence under my hand this 16 day of April 1904.

W. S. Barrett
Notary Public

Branch 4th Feb

as

18

Branch 4th Feb

32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Answer of

R. S. Thomas as guardian of
lithum, and of ~~his~~ infants by their
guardian and lithum
to married with

1 The answer of R. S. Thomas guardian ad litem of William Branch and
2 Louise Branch infants under the age of 21 years and the answer of the
3 infant defendants William Branch and Louise Branch by the said R. S.
4 Thomas their guardian ad litem to the amended and supplemental bill in
5 equity exhibited in the Circuit Court of Isle of Wight County against the said
6 William Branch and Louise Branch and others by Elizabeth Branch as her
7 own right and as guardian of the said William Branch and Louise Branch
8 infants and by Edward Mumble and Helen his wife, Wallace Edwards and
9 Emma his wife, M. R. Minton and Lillian his wife, Frank Branch and James
10 M. Branch.

11 For answer to the said amended and supplemental bill the said guardian ad
12 litem and says that he does not know whether the interest of the said infant
13 defendants would be promoted by the sale of the property as prayed for in the
14 said bill or not, and the said infant defendants by their said guardian ad
15 litem answer and say that being infants of tender years they know nothing
16 of the matters mentioned in the bill and commit the protection of their
17 interests to the court; and now having answered they pray to be

18 R. S. Thomas, guardian ad litem
19 to William & Louise Branch.

20 Isle of Wight County to wit

21 This day personally appeared before me the undersigned a Notary Public of
22 the said county R. S. Thomas guardian ad litem of William Branch and
23 Louise Branch and made oath that he believed the several statements
24 made in the foregoing answer to be true.

25 Given under my hand this 7th day of April 1900.

26 W. L. Lock

27 Notary Public

28

29

30

31

32

I authorize the service of the within summons and consent to
the making of the entry in vacation
John J. S. Branch

1

Form No. 300.

Branch John J. S.

VS. } SUBPOENA
IN
CHANCERY.

Branch John J. S.

p. q.

To Rules,
Court.

The Commonwealth of Virginia,

To the Sheriff of the County of Hanover, Greeting:

WE COMMAND YOU, that you summon J. J. S. Branch, William Branch and Louise Branch the last two infants under 21 years of age

to appear at the Clerk's office of the Circuit Court of the County of Isle of Wight - at the rules to be held for the said Court, on the Third Monday in October 1899, to answer a bill in chancery, exhibited against them in our said Court for

by Elizabeth Branch; Edward Marable and Weller his wife, Wallace Edwards and Emma his wife; M. R. Minton Jr. and Lillian his wife Sarah Branch and James M. Branch

And have then there this writ. Witness, N. J. Young, Clerk of our said Court, at the court-house, the 14th day of October 1899, and in the 12th year of the Commonwealth.

N. J. Young & Co.

A copy

Teste N. J. Young & Co.

Pravet 24

²⁰
Pravet at 25

Deposition

Filed April 18th 1901

Teste H. J. Young & Co.

C. D. Clark
Notary Public

be a judicious investment or not?

3rd A.

Yes, I think it would

And further this deponent saith not.

Signed,

E. W. Robinson

The witness

J. W. Mead

, being duly sworn,

deposes as follows:

1st. Q. State your residence and occupation.

1st. A.

Newport News, Va. City Auditor

2nd Q. Are you acquainted with the lot and dwelling in the City of Newport News, now occupied by Mrs. Elizabeth Branch, situate on Twenty-sixth Street, between Washington and Lafayette Avenues, being lot No. 31 in block No. 77, on McLean's Map of the City of Newport News, Va., and what do you consider a fair cash value of the said property, free from all encumbrance.

2nd. A.

I think that \$4000 is a moderate price for the property in question

3rd Q. Would, in your opinion, an investment of \$1400. to \$1500. secured by a mortgage or a deed of trust on the said property be a judicious investment or not?

3rd A.

Consider \$1400 to \$1500 secured as stated absolutely safe

And further this deponent saith not.

Signed

J. W. Mead

Virginia,

City of Newport News, to-wit:

I, C. D. West, a Notary Public for the City of Newport News in the State of Virginia, do hereby certify that the foregoing depositions of W. M. Parker, W. E. Barrett, *E. W. Robinson* and *J. W. Mead* were duly taken, sworn to and subscribed before me at the time and place, and for the purpose in the caption hereto mentioned.

Given under my hand this

17

day of

April

in the year 1901.

signed,

C. D. West, Notary Public

The witness, W. E. Barrett, being duly sworn, deposes as follows:

1st Q. State your residence and occupation.

1st A. I reside in Newport News, and my occupation is Attorney.

2nd Q. Are you acquainted with the lot and dwelling in the City of Newport News, Virginia, now occupied by Mrs. Elizabeth Branch, situate on Twenty-sixth Street, between Washington and Lafayette Avenues, being lot No. 31 in block No. 77, on McLeans Map of the City of Newport News, Va., and what do you consider a fair cash value of the said property free from all encumbrance?

2nd A. I am acquainted with the property referred to, and consider \$3600 a fair cash value of the same.

3rd Q. Would, in your opinion, an investment of \$1400. to \$1500. secured by a mortgage or a deed of trust on the said property be a judicious investment or not?

3rd A. I consider it would be judicious, and a conservative loan on the property.

And further this deponent saith not.

signed, W. E. Barrett

The witness, Edw Robinson, being duly sworn, deposes as follows:

1st. Q. State your residence and occupation.

1st A. Newport News, Va. City Clerk
Edw Robinson

2nd Q. Are you acquainted with the lot and dwelling in the City of Newport News, now occupied by Mrs. Elizabeth Branch, situate on Twenty-sixth Street, between Washington and Lafayette Avenues, being lot No. 31 in block 77 on McLean's Map of the City of Newport News, Va., and what do you consider a fair cash value of the said property, free from all encumbrance?

2nd A. No Law. I think \$3500 a fair
Cash price for same.

3rd Q. Would, in your opinion an investment of \$1400. to \$1500. secured by a mortgage or a deed of trust on the said property,

The depositions of W. M. Parker and others, taken before me, C. D. West, a Notary Public for the city of Newport News, in the State of Virginia, pursuant to a notice hereto annexed at my office, No. 231, Twenty-fifth Street, Newport News, Virginia, on the 17th day of April, 1901, between the hours of nine A. M. and six P. M., to be read as evidence in behalf of Elizabeth Branch in a certain suit in equity, depending in the Circuit Court of the County of Isle of Wight wherein Branch, Guardian, and others, are plaintiffs, and Branch and others, defendants.

Present, Geo. R. Atkinson, Attorney by Interrogatories.

The witness, W. M. Parker, being duly sworn, deposes as follows:

1st. Q. State your residence and occupation.

1st. A. I reside in Newport News; my occupation retired merchant.

2nd Q. Are you acquainted with the lot and dwelling in the City of Newport News, now occupied by Mrs. Elizabeth Branch, situate on Twenty-sixth Street, between Washington and Lafayette Avenues, being lot No. 31 in Block No. 77, on McLean's Map of the City of Newport News, Va., and what do you consider a fair cash value of the said property, free from all encumbrance?

2nd. A. *Yes. I think about \$3500 to*

\$4000

3rd Q. Would, in your opinion, an investment of \$1400. to \$1500. secured by a mortgage, or a deed of trust on the said property be a judicious investment or not?

3rd A. *Yes, it would*

And further this deponent saith not.

Signed,

W. M. Parker

I acknowledge service of the within notice

R. S. Thomas guardian ad

litum of William & Louise

Branch

22

21

20

19

18

17

16

15

14

13

12

11

10

19

18

17

16

15

14

13

12

11

10

9

8

7

6

5

4

3

2

1

1 J. P. J. Thomas guardian ad litem of William Branch and Louise Branch infants in or 21
2 years of age.

3 Take notice that on the 17th day of April 1904 at the office of Barrett & Ward in
4 the City of Newport News Virginia between the hours of 4 o'clock PM and 6 o'clock PM
5 of that day in shall proceed to take the depositions of
6
7 being in evidence in now his self
8 in the suit in equity depending in the Circuit Court of Isle of Wight County in
9 which we are plaintiffs and you and others are defendants and if from any cause
10 the taking of the said depositions be not commenced on that day or if commenced,
11 they be not completed on that day, the taking of the said depositions will be adjourned
12 and continued from time to time, at the same place and between the same
13 hours until they are completed

13 Elizabeth Branch in her own right
14 and as guardian of William and
15 Louise Branch.

16 Edward M. Noble and Helen

17 Maudie Wallace Edwards and Emma his wife

18 W. P. Martin and Letitia his wife Sarah Branch

19 and James W. Branch by her R. S. Thomas their

20 attorney,

21 Intimate to be performed to the witnesses in the suit of Branch's guardian and
22 others as Branch and others

23 1st Take your oaths and subscribe.

24 2nd Are you acquainted with the lot and shall say in the City of Newport News now
25 occupied by Mrs Elizabeth Branch and situated on 23rd Street between Washington
26 and Lafayette Avenues and what do you consider its fair cash value, less of its
27 improvements.

28 3rd What is your opinion the amount of of between \$1450 and \$1500 paid by
29 workmen on the said property is a permanent improvement or not?

30 by R. S. Thomas attorney for said parties

31 R. S. Thomas guardian ad litem
32 for William & Louise Branch

9

STATE OF DELAWARE

IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF DELEWARE

DOES CERTIFY THAT

THE FOLLOWING IS A TRUE AND CORRECT COPY

OF THE RECORDS OF THE

Filed in the clerk's office of the circuit
Court of Delaware county, Dec.
20th 1899
Jesse A. G. Spruill c. l.

Deposition of John S. Baker, U.S. Marshal, and others.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 1st day of June, 1902.

Notary Public for the State of New York.

Witness my hand and seal this 1st day of June, 1902.

Attest my hand and seal this 1st day of June, 1902.

Notary Public for the State of New York.

Attest my hand and seal this 1st day of June, 1902.

Notary Public for the State of New York.

Attest my hand and seal this 1st day of June, 1902.

1 We acknowledge receipt of the within notice

2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32

3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32

Branch and other
businesses have

has returned around for
handfuls was for about half a year
about 2 years
R. S. Thomas, President of
Library, Williams and Son's Branch

Commissioners Office

Santhpato November 16th 1899.

To Elizabeth Branch as her next of kin and as guardian of William Branch and Louise Branch infants under 21 years of age, Edward Marshall and Helen his wife Wallace Edwards and Emma his wife W R Winton Jr and Lillian his wife Sarah Branch and James M Branch

Plaintiffs

~~And to James Branch~~

William Branch and Louise Branch infants under 21 years of age by R B Thomas their guardian ad litem and John J S Branch

Defendants

I do hereby certify that I have filed upon the 14th day of November 1899 at my office aforesaid to make a sale and report to court the following my reasons and accounts to wit 1st whether the interests of the infants defendants will be promoted by the sale of the property in the bill mentioned or of any part thereof and the investment of the proceeds of sale in other property, 2nd whether the rights of any party will be violated by such sale, the fair market value of the land referred to and whether it has been sold for delinquent taxes together with any matter specially stated deemed proper by the commissioners or required by any of the parties to be so stated, required to be made stated and reported by a decree of the Circuit Court of Isle of Wight County rendered on the 8th day of November 1899 as a suit in chancery pending therein in which you are parties, plaintiffs and defendants, at which time and place you are required to attend

Done under my hand as a commissioner in chancery of the said court the day and year first aforesaid.

Branchi Gley Hob

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32

Branchi Hob
Questions to be prepared
to witnesses

1 Interrogatories to be propounded to the witnesses in the suit of Elizabeth
2 Branch in her own right and as guardian of William Branch and
3 Louise Branch, infants, and others against the said William Branch
4 and Louise Branch by R S Thomas Their guardian ad litem and
5 John J S Branch.

6 1st Interrogatory, State your age, residence and occupations

7 2nd Interrogatory, Do you or not know the land in the bill named

8 Tract called Butts owned by Mrs Elizabeth Branch for life with
9 remainder of three fourths thereof to her children and of one fourth
10 to James M Branch, and what is its present rental value?

11 3rd Interrogatory, Is it or not to the interest of the infant defendants
12 William Branch and Louise Branch to sell the said land and invest
13 the proceeds of sale in other property, If you state your reasons therefor?

14 4th Interrogatory, Would or not the interest of any person be vio-
15 lated by such sale?

16
17 It is agreed that the foregoing interrogatories may be propounded to
18 the witnesses in the above mentioned case by the Branches even

19 the R S Thomas counsel for the
20 Plaintiffs and for the adult defend-
21 ant John J S Branch.

22 R. S. Thomas, guardian ad
23 litem to infant Defendants -
24 William Branch & Louise Branch

25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32

10

Filed in the clerk's office of
Jail of Wright County, Missouri and
December 20th 1899
Teste N. G. Young es.

R. E. Boykin

Branch Leds Leds
vs 13

Branch Leds.

32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Report of
the R. L. Linsley
Commissioner of the
United States of America, 1900

1 To the Hon and court of Isle of Wight County

2 Pursuant to a decree of the said court rendered on the 3rd day of January
3 1900 in a suit in chancery pending therein between Elizabeth Branch in
4 her own right and as guardian of William Branch and Louise Branch,
5 infants and others and the said William Branch and other defendants, the
6 undersigned commissioner appointed and directed by the said decree to see
7 the tract of land called Butts in the proceedings mentioned reports to court
8 that after advertising the time place and terms of sale as required by said
9 decree he offered the said land for sale at public auction at the front door of the
10 court house of Isle of Wight county on Monday the 5th day of March 1900.
11 That being court day and James H. Branch having bid for the said land
12 the sum of Fifty hundred and twenty five dollars and that being the
13 highest bid therefor the same was accepted whereupon the said James H.
14 Branch paid the sum of Eighty seven ⁷⁰/₁₀₀ Dollars and together with
15 Mary J. Branch his surety executed two Bonds each for the sum of Seven
16 hundred and eighty ⁶⁵/₁₀₀ Dollars, dated on the said 5th day of March
17 1900 and payable six and twelve months after date respectively with interest
18 thereon from date, which bonds are herewith returned.

19 Your commissioner further reports that after said sale and complete
20 sale with the terms thereof, persons informed that the said Elizabeth
21 Branch had never qualified as guardian of her said infant children and
22 the said land had been improperlyly brought he did not apply the said cash
23 payment towards the costs of the suit as directed by the said decree and has
24 retained the said sum in his hands subject to the order of the court,
25 all of which is respectfully submitted

26 Geo. Robinson Commissioner

1 To the General Court of Isle of Wight county

2 Pursuant to a decree of the said court rendered on the 3rd day of January 1900 in
3 the said in chancery pending therein between Elizabeth Branch in her own right
4 and as guardian of William Branch and Louise Branch, infants and others,
5 plaintiffs and the said William Branch and others defendants, the undersigned,
6 commissioner appointed and directed by the said decree to sell the tract of land
7 containing two and four tenths acres more or less, called Butts and situated
8 in the county aforesaid reports to court that after advertising the time,
9 place and terms of sale as required by said decree he offered the said land
10 for sale at public auction at the front door of said courthouse on Monday
11 the 3rd day of March 1900, that being court day, and James M Branch
12 buying bid fifteen hundred and twenty five dollars and that being the high
13 bid and the same was accepted, and the said James M Branch thereupon
14 paid the sum of, Eighty seven ¹⁰/₁₀₀ dollars in cash and together with
15 Mary J Branch his surety executed two bonds for Seven hundred and
16 eighty seven dollars and sixty five cents each dated on the 3rd day of March
17 1900 and payable one and two years from the date respectively, with in
18 interest from date, which bonds are herewith returned.

19 Your commissioner has reported to the court payment as follows.

20	Money paid in and lost tax	3.50
21	Paid Clerk's fees	6.00
22	" Commissioner's fee	3.50
23	" advertising land - three times	1.00
24	" Auctioneer	5.00
25	" Commissioner on \$300 @ 15% on \$1925	34.38
26		88.70
27	From above deducting the cash payment of	87.70
28	There remains due to your commission	\$1.00
29	All of which is respectfully submitted	

30
31
32

20

Branch Gdn, et als.

Vs. In Chancery.

Branch et als.

Commissioner Boykin's Report.

Filed Sept / 7th 1900.

For much you do

as

For much do.

Commensurates of time

Source of process is ac

→ c

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32

Commissioner's Office
Smithfield July 30th 1900

To Elizabeth Branch in her own right and as guardian of William Branch
and Louise Branch, Edmund Munkle and Helen his wife William Ed
wards and Emma his wife W B Munkle and Lillian his wife
Susie Branch and James M Branch
Plaintiffs
and to

William Branch and Louise Branch infants under County and
years of age and John J Branch Defendants.

I have notice that I have been upon the 1st day of Sept
~~October~~ 1900 at my said office to enquire and report to court
whether the sale of the land reported by Commissioner Wilkinson
under decree of January 3rd 1900 is for its full and fair value
and whether the interest of the infant defendants will be protected
by the confirmation thereof and whether the rights of any
person will be violated by such sale required by a decree of the
General Court of Isle of Wight County, rendered on the 23rd day of
April 1900. in a suit in chancery in which you are parties, plain
tiffs and defendant of which here and place you are requested
to attend

have under my hand as a commissioner in chancery of the
said court the day and year first aforesaid

We acknowledge service of the above notice

W B Wilkinson

Attorney for Plaintiffs and for
the defendant John J Branch.

R. S. Thomas, guardian ad litem of the
infant-Defendants, William & Louise Branch

Ques 2. State whether or not you are acquainted with the land in the proceedings of this suit mentioned sold by Geo.R:Atkinson Comr in the suit of Branch Gdn,Vs Branch et als,and if so what in your opinion is the full and fair value thereof.

Ans. I am acquainted with the said land,have been over it many a time; have worked on it. I was present at the sale. I think the price at which it sold was its full value.

Ques 3. State whether in your opinion the interests of the infant defendants would be promoted by the confirmation of the said sale, and if any person would be injured thereby.

Ans.I certainly think the interests of the infants would be promoted by confirming the sale as I consider it sold for a most excellent price,and for more than I thought. No one could be injured by confriming the sale.

And further this deponent sayeth not.

W R Gattimer

State of Virginia. Isle of Wight County,to wit.

I,R.E.Boykin,a Commissioner in Cagcery for the Circuit Court for the County aforesaid,in the Stae of Virginia,do hereby certify that the foregoing depositons of B.P.Chaman and others,were duly,taken sworn to,and subscribed before me,at the time and place and for the purpose therein mentioned.

Given under my hand this 15th day of Sept 1900

Commissioner in Cahcery

And further this deponent sayeth not.

B. R. Chapman

W.E.Fulgham, a witness of lawful age having been first duly sworn deposes and says as follows.

Ques. 1. State your age, residence and occupation.

Ans. I am 54 years of age. Live near Smithfield, am a farmer.

Ques 2. State whether or not you are acquainted with the lands in the proceedings of this suit mentioned, sold by Geo. R. Atkinson, Comr in the suit of Branch Gd., Vs Branch et als, and if so state what, in your opinion, is the full and fair value of the said land.

Ans. I am acquainted with the said land. I have walked over it several times, it is near my land. I was present at the sale. I think \$1500 is the full value of the said land.

Ques. 3. State whether in your opinion the interests of the infant defendants would be promoted by a confirmation of the sale made by Comr Atkinson as aforesaid, and if the rights of any person would be injured thereby.

Ans. I am of the opinion that the sale at \$1525. should be confirmed as it is clearly for the benefit of the infants, and no person could be injured thereby.

And further this deponent sayeth not.

W. E. Fulgham

W.R. Latimer a witness of lawful age, having been first duly sworn deposes and says as follows.

Ques. 1. State your age, residence and occupation.

Ans. I am 34 years of age. Live near the land in question, am a farmer by occupation.

The depositions of B.P.Chapman and others ,taken before me,R.E.Boy-
kin,a Commissioner in Chacery of the Circuit Court of the County
of Isle of Wight,at my office in the town of Smithfield,on the 25th
day of Sept 1900,between the hours of Nine O'Clock A.M.,and Nine
O'Clock P.M.,of that day,pursuant to the annexed notice,to be used
as evidence in a certain suit in chancery depneding in the Circuit
Court of the County aforesaid,wherein Branch guardian of

William and Laura branch and others are plaintiffs,and Wm
Brach and Laura branch and others are defendants.

*I agree to the Interrogatories herein proposed to
the witnesses B. P. Chapman, W. E. Fulgham and
W. R. Lamm as shown below. R. S. Thomas guardian
ad litem to William Branch & Louise Branch*

Present Geo.R.Atkinson Counsel for the Plaintiffs.

B.P.Chapman,a witness of lawful age having been duly sworn deposes
and says as follows.

1. Sate your age,residence and occupation.

Ans. 51 Years, live in Smithfield, Merchant.

Ques. 2d. Sate whether or not you are acquainted with the land in
the proceedings of this suit mentioned,sold by Geo.R.Atkinson Comr
in the suit of Branch Gdn Vs Branch et als',and if so state what in
your opinion is the full and fair value thereof.

Ans. I am acquainted with the land in question,have been all over
it. Was present at the sale and went ther with the view of buying
it. I am of the opinion that the land is worth about \$1250.00 .
I consider \$1525.00 above its value.

Ques3.State whether in your opinion the interests of the infant
defendants would be promoted by a confirmation of the sale,and if
the rights of any person will be violated thereby.

Ans. I am of the opinion that it would be to the interests of the
infant defendants to confirm said sale,and I am not aware that the
interests of any person will be injured thereby.

Commissioners Office, Smithfield, Va.

Sept 15th 1900.

The undersigned, R.E. Boykin, a Commissioner in Chancery for the Circuit Court for the County of Isle of Wight, in the State of Virginia, who was directed by a decree of the Circuit Court of the County aforesaid, entered on the 23d day of April 1900, in the suit of Branch Gdn et als Vs Branch, depending in the said court, to enquire and report to court whether the sale of the land reported to court by Comr Atkinson, under the decree of Jany 3d 1900, is for its full and fair value; whether the interests of the infant defendants will be promoted by the confirmation thereof, and whether the rights of any person will be violated by such sale; respectfully reports to court that in obedience to the said decree, having first given leagal notice to the parties, he proceeded to execute the said decree, and reports that the said sale of the said land, in the bill and proceedings of this suit mentioned, made by Comr Atkinson under the decree herein of Jany 3d 1900, and heretofore reported to court, was a wise and judicious sale, the said land selling for \$1525.00, whih, in the opinion of your Commissioner, was its full and fair value, and rather above its market value.

Your Commissioner is further of the opinion, and so reports, that the interests of the infant defendants will be promoted by a confirmation of the said sale, and the rights of not person will be violated thereby.

The evidence taken by your said Commissioner is herewith returned, together with said notice.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

*Time employed 7 hours
for 23rd*

R. E. Boykin
Commissioner in Chancery

Better known
George A. Thomas

Mrs Bettie Branch

See Justice of Peace

, Newport District,

No.

1898.

To JOHN W. ROBERTS, Treasurer of Isle of Wight County, Va., Dr.

SUBJECTS OF TAXATION.	State Tax 30c. on \$100.	State School Tax, 10c. on \$100.	County Levy, 40c. on \$100.	County School Tax, 3c. on \$100.	District School Tax, 5c. on \$100.	County Road Tax, 5c. on \$100.	TOTAL TAX.
To ~~160 1/2~~ acres Land, value \$ 803	2 41	80	2 68	40	40	40	
" _____ acres Land, value \$ _____							
" _____ acres Land, value \$ _____							
" _____ acres Land, value \$ _____							
" Personal Property, value \$ _____							
" Capitation Taxes _____	1 00		50				
" Income _____ \$ _____							
Total _____							7 09
5 per cent. additional _____							35
Total _____							\$ 7.44

Received payment _____ day of _____ 189 _____

Treasurer,

Per _____

Better Branch
Judge Atkins
P

$$\begin{array}{r} 883 \\ 744 \\ \hline 16.24 \\ 1243 \\ \hline 28172 \end{array}$$

New Port News
 Mrs. Bettie Branch

New Port News
 , Newport District.

No. _____

1899.

To JOHN W. ROBERTS, Treasurer of Isle of Wight County, Va., Dr.

SUBJECTS OF TAXATION.	State Tax, 30c. on \$100.	State School Tax, 10c. on \$100.	County Levy, 50c. on \$100.	County School Tax, 5c. on \$100.	District School Tax, 5c. on \$100.	County Road Tax, 5c. on \$100.	TOTAL TAX.
To <u>160</u> acres Land, value \$ <u>803</u>	<u>2 41</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>4 02</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>40</u>	
" _____ acres Land, value \$ _____							
" _____ acres Land, value \$ _____							
" _____ acres Land, value \$ _____							
" Personal Property, value \$ _____							
" Capitation Taxes _____	<u>1 00</u>		<u>50</u>				
" Income _____ \$ _____							
Total _____							<u>8 43</u>
5 per cent. additional _____							<u>42</u>
Total _____							<u>8 85</u>

Received payment _____ day of _____ 1 _____

Treasurer.

Per _____

LAW OFFICES.
WILLIAM E. BARRETT,
NEWPORT NEWS,
VIRGINIA.

Newport News, Va., April 17, 1901.

Judge Geo. R. Atkinson,
Smithfield, Va.

Dear Sir:-

In pursuance of your request I have had the depositions taken in reference to the property of Mrs. Elizabeth Branch. I have had four persons to give depositions in answer to the questions mailed by you, and the depositions have been mailed to Mr. Young, Clerk of the County, and I herewith enclose you certificate of title to lot 31 in block 77, owned by Mrs. Branch. I hope this will be satisfactory to you. Mrs. Branch proposes to pay off the deed of trust shown in the certificate. It takes about \$1250. to pay off the amount now due on this deed. Of course the deed of release will be secured from the company, but she will have to rely upon this money from the court to pay off the mortgage. I wish you would try to arrange so as to tell her definitely when she can check for it. I suppose she will have to give a deed of trust on this property to secure the payment of the amount coming to her from the suit. If I can aid you further in this matter, I shall be very glad to serve you.

Very truly yours,

C.

W. E. Barrett

As James M. Branch has purchased a lot with special warranty for the lot of
land in the lot with special warranty mentioned
here under my hand as special commissioner

James M. Branch

73

Branch & Co

or

Branch & Co

James M. Branch Report of
Collection & Deposit, under date
of Oct 22 1900,

To the General Court of Isle of Wight County

Presented to a decree of the said court rendered on the 22nd day of October 1900 in the suit in chancery pending therein between Elizabeth Branch in her own right and as guardian of William Branch and Louise Branch infants and others plaintiffs and the said William Branch and Louise Branch and others defendants, the undersigned, special commissioner ~~therein~~ was directed by the said decree to apply the sum of eighty seven dollars and seventy cents in his hands to the payment of the cost of said suit and sale, and to collect the two sales bonds of James M Branch and W J Branch for the sum of seven hundred and eighteen and ⁶⁵ two dollars each and after the unpaid costs of the suit to deposit the remainder in the Bank of Smithfield Smithfield Va, and on the payment of the said bonds to execute and deliver to the said James M Branch a good and sufficient deed with special warranty for the land in the bill and proceedings mentioned above that he has paid out the said eighty seven dollars and seventy cents as follows, to wit

Paid attorneys fees allowed & taxed Sur		31 50	
" commissions on \$300 ^{\$15} and \$1225 ^{24 50}		39 50	
" clerk's fees	N. J. Young	6 20	
" commissions for 1 st report	R. E. Boykin	5 50	
" auctioneer	W. R. Edwards	5 00	
		87 70	
Received on sales bonds of \$718.63 each			1437 30
" interest from March 5 th 1900. to March 2 1901		85 52	
Paid commissions on \$85.52	1.71		
" Taxes on land 1898 delinquent	7.44		
" " " 1899 "	8.85	18 00	67 52
" clerk's fees	N. J. Young	5 81	
" Com R E Boykin 2 nd Report	R. E. Boykin	5 25	
" Value of sale on this		1 00	
" Working deed ^{\$100} Tax and outlaying ^{\$2} 50¢		12 50	
" Writ Tax on amended bill		1 50	
Amount deposited in Bank of Smithfield, Smithfield Va		1478 76	
		1504 82	1504 82

The payments and deposits are used and by proper vouchers which are here with returned. Your commissioner further reports that Elizabeth Branch being the life tenant of the proceeds of sale the commissions on the interest and taxes should be paid out of the interest and he has so done, leaving a balance of \$67.52 He further reports that on the payment of the sales bonds he received and delivered

I hereby certify that I have made an examination of the title to all that certain lot, piece or parcel of ground, situate and being in the City of Newport News, Virginia, known and designated on a certain map, entitled "Map of part of the City of Newport News, Virginia" which said map is duly recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Corporation Court of the City of Newport News, in Plat Book No. 1, page 3, by the lot number Thirty-one (31) in block seventy-seven (77), being situate on the south side of Twenty-sixth Street, between Washington and Lafayette Avenues. ^{by Elizabeth Branch} The said property was purchased on Oct. 23rd, 1897 from Thadett A. Cooke. This deed is recorded in deed book No. 5, page 325, Clerk's Office of the Corporation Court aforesaid, and there are no encumbrances on the said property save and except a deed of trust bearing date Oct. 1st, 1898, to A. P. Thom and C. H. Williamson, Trustees, to secure the payment of a certain bond executed by Elizabeth Branch, in the penal sum of ^{AR Oct 12 1898, Deed Book 8 Page 230} \$8000. (the amount of the loan being \$1500.), and there are no other liens of record binding the said property. I am of the opinion that when this deed of trust shall have been released, a deed of trust proposed by Elizabeth Branch to secure the payment of certain funds of which she is a life tenant, now deposited in suit, of Branch, Guardian vs. Branch and others pending in the Circuit Court of the County of Isle of Wight, will constitute a first lien upon the property.

Signed, W. E. Darrett
Atty at Law,

Newport News, Virginia,
April 17, 1901.

21 Porcupine Glands and others

1	
2	
3	
4	
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	
24	
25	
26	
27	
28	
29	
30	
31	
32	

Porcupine and others
from Smithsonian
Report
under care of Woodruff
1909.

1 In the General Court of the County of Loudoun

2 The undersigned Special Commissioner who was directed by a decree of the said
3 Court entered on the 24th day of April 1904 in a suit in chancery pending therein
4 between Elizabeth Branch in her own right and as guardian of William Branch
5 and Louis Branch infants and others Plaintiffs and the said William Branch
6 and Louis Branch and others Defendants, to withdraw from the Bank of
7 Smithfield Smithfield the sum and deposit therein to the credit of the said
8 estate and discharge the same existing on the 1st of the said Elizabeth Branch
9 who is on 26th Street between Washington and Lafayette Streets in the
10 City of Newport News Virginia having her bond therefor payable to the
11 said Special Commissioner, the interest on the said bond to be payable to the
12 said Elizabeth Branch during her life and the payment of the same to be
13 secured by a deed of trust on the said lot, to pay to the said Elizabeth Branch
14 the balance shown by the said Commissioner's report to be due her for inter-
15 est and after paying the said Commissioner's fees and costs for his ser-
16 vices to leave out the remainder an sufficient security payable to the said
17 Commissioner with interest thereon payable to the said Elizabeth
18 Branch during her life, reports that he has discharged his duties under
19 the said decree as shown by the following statement to wit:

20	Amount on deposit in Bank of Smithfield.			1478	76
21	Paid the same on the said lot	1254	02		
22	" Elizabeth Branch balance of interest	67	52		
23	" the Plaintiff's	13	00		
24	Balance due to Elizabeth Branch	142	22		
25		1478	76	1478	76

26 The vouchers for which are herewith returned together with Elizabeth Branch
27 bonds for \$1254.02 and \$142.22 together with the deeds of trust to be
28 and the payment of the same

29 Geo R. Williams

30

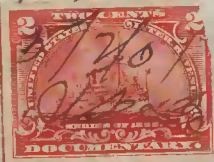
31

32

PAY TO THE ORDER OF
GIRARD NATIONAL BANK
BANKERS BUILDING
United States Savings & Trust
Company of Philadelphia
ESMONDE H. JAGTIN, Treasurer

Pay to the Order of
ANY BANK OR BANKER,
CITY BANK OF RICHMOND, VA.
J. W. JAGTIN, Cashier

Pay to the Order of
ANY BANK OR BANKER,
GIRARD NATIONAL BANK, PHILA.
J. W. JAGTIN, Cashier
ESMONDE H. JAGTIN, Treasurer



CRANES BOND

Altomus & Co, Philadelphia.

\$1254.⁰²/₁₀₀ Philadelphia, May 7th 1901
At sight Pay to
the order of — ourselves —
Twelve hundred fifty four ⁰²/₁₀₀ Dollars
315

Value received and charge the same to account of
To Mr. E. Barrett
Newport News, Va.
United Security Life Insurance & Trust Company
of Pennsylvania

Wm. H. Hays

All Available Text Successfully Captured

Mr W E Barnett

To Clerk Corporation Court, City of Newport News, Dr.

1901

May 7

To Recording Deed

from

Elizabeth Branch to W E Barnett Jr

150

at Home of R Alkins Spf Ocean Road (V)

Tax 1251.02

State Tax

130

Commissioner's Transfer Fee

2.80

Paid.

"Services to be performed."

Teste:

Witness

Clerk.

By

Robertson W E

D. C.



THE FRANKLIN PRINT, 211 25TH ST.

133634
 14722
 97876

M^r W E Barnett

To Clerk Corporation Court, City of Newport News, Dr.

1901

May 7

To Recording Deed Power of att, from

United Security Life Insurance + Trust Co

at F.B. Pratt

180

To 1 Mortgage Release

Eliabeth Brown to U.S. Life Insurance + T Co

75

State Tax

Commissioner's Transfer Fee

Paid.

\$ 2.25

"Services to be performed."

Teste:

W E Barnett

Clerk.

By

W E Barnett

D. C.



I hereby certify that I have this day made an examination of the title to lot number Thirty-one (31) in block number Seventy-seven(77) on a certain map, entitled "Map of part of the City of Newport News, Virginia," which said map is duly recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Corporation Court of the City of Newport News, in Plat Book No. 1, page 3, the property of Elizabeth Branch, and I find that the title to the said property is in the said Elizabeth Branch, and that there are no liens of any kind against it save and except a deed of trust bearing date on the 7th day of May, 1901, to W. E. Barrett, Trustee, to secure the payment of a certain bond in the sum of TWELVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FOUR DOLLARS AND TWO CENTS (\$1254.02) payable to Geo. R. Atkinson, Special Commissioner. This deed is of record in deed book No. 20, page 153, of the Clerk's Office of the Corporation Court of the City of Newport News.



Attorney-at-Law.

Newport News, Virginia,

July 20, 1901.

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8

142.2 ~
1234.0 ~

11396.2 4
349.0 6

And this 27th July 1907. of Geo R Atkinson Sec
Com. the sum of One Hundred forty two dollars
and twenty two Cents, 142²² £ being the balance
of previous year & paid in the Chamber sent
of Elizabeth Branch on her own right W. Branch was
in receipt sent of John J Wright to,

Elizabeth Branch
By W. E. Barrett
the atty.

Recd 7th May 1907 of Geo R Atkinson ~~Spoken~~
Commissioner, the sum of Sixty Seven
Dollars and fifty two Cents, 67 ⁵²/₁₀₀
Amount of Judgment due to Elizabeth Branch
by Decree in Circuit Court, & also judgment
in Chancery Court of Elizabeth Branch in
her own right - W Branch It is -

Elizabeth Branch
By W E Barrett
her atty.

BARRETT & WEST,

REAL ESTATE,
INSURANCE,
LOANS.

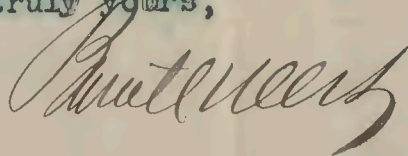
Newport News, Va. June 17th., 1903.

Judge Geo. R. Atkinson,
Smithfield, Virginia.

Dear Sir:-

We enclose you Citizens Ins. Co. policy #308411,
\$1500. on dwelling Mrs Elizebeth Branch, which we wish to
substitute for Madgeburg policy #147389, now held by you.
Please forward us the latter policy and oblige,
CDW/C.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "R. W. Barrett", is written over the typed name "Barrett & West". The signature is fluid and cursive.

French kids to do
8

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32

French and this
November 8th 1899

To be noted,

Robert R. Hunt

November 13th 1899
Received & entered of record
Teste N. J. Young &c

1 In the Circuit Court of Isle of Wight County in and over November 8th
2 1899

3 Elizabeth Branch as her own right and as guardian of William
4 Branch and Louise Branch, infants under 21 years of age, Et al and
5 Mable and Helen his wife, Wallace Edwards and Emma his wife
6 W P Munton Jr and Lillian his wife Sarah Branch and James M
7 Branch Plaintiff

8 against

9 William Branch and Louise Branch infants under 21 years of age
10 and John F S Branch Defendant

11 This cause came on this day to be heard on the bill and exhibits filed

12 the answer of R F Edwards guardian ad litem of the infant defendants

13 and William Branch and Louise Branch ^{duly} assigned to defend

14 their interests in this suit, the answer of the said infant defendant

15 and by these said guardian ad litem, the answer of the said infant

16 defendant William Branch who is over the age of fourteen

17 years of age and the answer of the adult defendant John F S

18 Branch, ^{and} ~~with~~ general replication thereto, was argued by counsel

19 and the consideration whereof, the Court does hereby ^{order} and the

20 case history of the commissioners of this court do inquire and report

21 to the court, 1st whether the interests of the infant defendants

22 will be promoted by the sale of the property in the bill mentioned or of

23 any part thereof and the measurement of the proceeds of sale in other

24 property, ^{the fair simple value of the land referred to, and whether}
^{it has been sold for delinquent taxes,}

25 2. Whether the rights of any persons will be violated by such sale, which

26 requires the said commissioners shall make and report to the

27 court together with any other specially stated demands hereunto by law

28 self or required by any of the parties to be so stated.

39 To the Clerk of the Robert R. Hunt
40 Circuit Court of
41 Isle of Wight County.
42

Elizabeth Branch

v. Order

Wm Branch & Co.

Enter Jan'y 3, 1800.

Robert R. Reuland

January 3rd 1800

This warrant and order

was received & entered

of record

Teste

A. J. Young & Co.

of Isle of Wight County, do certify that the parties to the chancery cause of Elizabeth Branch et al. William Branch and others have consented that the said cause may be submitted to the judge of this court for such decision and decree therein, in vacation as might be made in term.

Robert R. Reuland

To the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Isle of Wight County.

1 We came out to the hearing of the case of Elizabeth Branch in her own
2 right and as guardian of William Branch and Louis Branch, infants, and
3 others plaintiffs against the said William Branch and Louis Branch
4 infants, and John J. Branch defendants, in vacation on the 3rd day
5 of January 1900 or such other day as may suit the court in case of
6 the judge and grand jury ^{may} ~~at~~ ^{that by way of term} ~~for the sale of the land in~~ ~~vacation~~
7 ~~may.~~

8 Geo. R. Wilkerson counsel for
9 the plaintiffs and for the defendant
10 John J. Branch.

11 R. S. Thomas, counsel for
12 guardian ad litem to the in-
13 fant defendants William
14 and Louis Branch.

15 Circuit Court of Isle of Wight County, in vacation, on
16 the 3rd day of January 1900.

17 I, Robert R. Prentiss, judge of the Circuit Court
18

Branch books
12

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32

Branch books

Where

To be written.

Jan 3, 1900

Robert R. Huntis

January 3th 1900

This decree was received
and entered of record

Teste A. J. Young & Co.

1 In the County of Isle of Wight County in and for the County of Wight
2 1900.

3 Elizabeth Branch as her own right and as guardian of William Branch
4 and Louise Branch infants under 21 years of age and others Plaintiffs
5 against

6 William Branch and Louise Branch infants under 21 years of age
7 and John S Branch

8 ^{which by consent of parties has been submitted to the judge of this court}
9 ^{for such decision or decree as might be made in the premises}
10 ^{and the court on this day by consent to be again heard on the premises}

11 formerly read, and on the report of Commissioner R E Baykin under the
12 order of the Court of December 20th 1899, and was agreed by
13 counsel of the Board of Directors of the Court that Company and report, to which
14 no exceptions were filed, and that the judge, order and decree that Henry R. Williams,
15 who is hereby appointed Commissioner for the purpose, shall, after giving at
16 least ^{notice} ~~ten~~ days of the time place and terms of sale be made as more fully
17 in places in the County of Isle of Wight and at the front door of the Court
18 house of said County, offer for sale at public auction, on a court day, the
19 tract of land containing two hundred and four acres, more or less, in the
20 land and proceedings mentioned, situated in the County of Isle of Wight and
21 known as "Bulls" and upon the following terms to wit: for cash or to ~~be~~ ^{be} ~~the~~ ^{the}
22 of the proceeds of sale as may be necessary to pay the costs of suit and sale
23 including a fee, as asked for in the bill, of thirty dollars to the R. Williams
24 for his services as attorney in the suit, and the remainder as a credit to
25 and holder of the mortgage in equal amounts: the purchaser to execute his
26 bonds for the deferred payments with sufficient security payable as he may
27 wish in the Court of his proceedings here in,
28 he also may do other acts with respect from the day of sale, But before the
29 said R. Williams shall proceed to execute this decree he shall execute before
30 the clerk of this court a bond, with sufficient security and amount
31 of \$2000.00 in the sum of two thousand (\$2000) dollars
32 of receipt in his hands for the faithful performance of his duties ^{under} ~~the~~
33 this is my further decree herein.

34 Robert R. Williams
35 To the Clerk of the
36 Circuit Court of Isle of Wight County.

19

Branch has led

Branch has led

32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15 14 13 12 11 10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

Witness
April 23, 1900

Robert R. Hunt

Entered

We consent.

R. L. Thomas
President and Clerk

Wm. R. Williams
Counsel for Plaintiff
and for the J. B. and
other defendants

1 In the Circuit Court of Ark of Wright County April 23rd 1900,

2

3 Elizabeth Branch in her own right and as guardian of William Branch and
4 Louise Branch, Edward W. Mable and Helen his wife Wallace Edwards and Ben
5 mo his wife M. P. Minton Jr and Lillian his wife Sarah Branch and James M
6 Branch. Plaintiffs

7 against

8 William Branch and Louise Branch infants under Twenty one years of age,
9 and John J. Branch Defendants.

10

11 This day came the plaintiffs and filed their amended and supplemental bill
12 and R. S. Thomas is assigned guardian of the infant defendants, William
13 Branch and Louise Branch to defend their interests in this suit and thereupon the
14 said guardian did take the oaths of the said infant defendants and his own
15 answer duly sworn to, to the ^{amended and supplemental} bill of the plaintiffs and the said William Branch
16 being over fourteen years of age filed his own answer duly sworn to and the
17 adult defendant John J. Branch filed his answer to the said bill, to which
18 several answers the plaintiffs ~~by their counsel~~ replied generally, and even
19 on to be heard, by consent, on the ^{said} answers and replications, on the papers
20 formerly read, and upon the report of George P. Withers on case made
21 of said under decree of January 3rd 1900, and was argued by counsel. —

22 On consideration whereof the court doth adjudge, order and decree that a case
23 ~~was made~~ of this court shall require and refer to court whether the sale of the
24 land reported by Commissioner Arkansas is for the best and fair value, and
25 whether the interest of the infant defendants will be promoted by the said
26 execution thereof, and whether the rights of any person will be violated by
27 such sale, ~~and this to be made in an entire case.~~

28 And by consent of parties it is ordered that this cause may be ~~and~~
29 ~~submitted~~ submitted to the judge of
30 this court for such decision and
31 decree herein, in vacation, as
32 might be made in term —

22 Branch ydu und als

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32

Branch ydu.

Report

of

Worce

October 22nd 1900.

Subscribed,

Robert R. Mantis

1 In the Circuit Court of Isle of Wight County October 22nd 1900

2

3 Elizabeth Branch in her own right and as guardian of William Branch
4 and Louise Branch infants under 21 years of age, and others Plaintiffs
5 and

6 the said William Branch and Louise Branch and others Defendants

7

8 This cause came on this day to be argued here on the papers previously
9 read and on the report of commissioner R E Baykin made under decree here
10 in of March 24, 1900, to which no exceptions were filed, and was argued
11 by counsel. The consideration of the said docket comprises the said report
12 and doth certify and confirm the sale of the land in the bill and proceed
13 ings mentioned made by commissioner of sale George R. Dickinson and in
14 decree here in of January 3rd 1900. To which no exceptions were filed, and doth

15 acknowledge and doth decree that the said George R. Dickinson commissioner
16 shall apply the sum of eighty seven dollars and seventy cents shown by
17 the said report to be in his hands, to the payment of the costs of suit and
18 sale as directed by the said decree of January 3rd 1900, and shall receive
19 from the clerk of this court on his filing his receipt therefor, the ^{day} ~~sum~~ bonds
20 filed with his said report executed by James M. Branch and Mary J. Branch
21 each being for the sum of seven hundred and eighty ⁶⁵/₁₀₀ dollars ~~with in~~
22 ~~trust~~ from date, and dated March 5th 1900 and payable respectively one and
23 twelve months after date, and proceed to collect the same (with knowledge of the
24 said James M. Branch to anticipate the payment of the said bonds before
25 their maturity) and on the payment of the said bonds the said Commissioner
26 shall execute and deliver to the said James M. Branch a good and suffici
27 ent deed with the usual warranty for the land in the bill and proceedings men
28 tioned, shall pay the unpaid costs of this suit and deposit the remainder in
29 the Bank of Southport Southport Va. to the credit of this cause and make re
30 port to court of his proceedings under this decree.

31

32

25 Branch head on hole

5

1	early longish in the inner portion and in the lower portion but with the internal like longish in the
2	Early short Branch showing long life, was short long in the end Early short Branch the inner of
3	to 9.9.3 showing portions of internal and under report is even of how previous was
4	inner,
5	
6	
7	
8	
9	
10	
11	
12	
13	
14	
15	
16	
17	
18	
19	
20	
21	
22	
23	Branch short.
24	short
25	short 2.2.901
26	to be internal.
27	
28	
29	
30	
31	
32	

Robert Harris

1 In the Circuit Court of Isle of Wight County, April 22nd 1901

2
3 Elizabeth Branch in her own right and as executrix of and other Plaintiffs

4 vs

5 William Branch & Co

Defendants

6
7 This cause came on this day to be again heard on the papers previously read
8 and on the report of Commissioner of said County R. W. Atkinson under these lines
9 of October 22, 1900, and was argued by counsel. On consideration whereof, the Court
10 doth approve the said ~~report~~ ^{report} to which no exceptions are filed, and doth adjudge
11 order and decree that the R. W. Atkinson Commissioner of said County under these lines of June
12 3, 1900, do withdraw from the Bank of Smithfield Smithfield Va so much of the funds
13 on deposit therein to the credit of this cause as will be sufficient to discharge
14 the lien on the lot of the said Elizabeth Branch situate on the south side of Twenty sixth
15 Street between Washington and Lafayette Streets in the City of Newport News in the State
16 of Virginia conveying and being a deed of trust bearing date on the 1st day of October
17 1898, and executed by the said Elizabeth Branch conveying the said Lot to W. P. Thorne
18 and C. R. Williamson Trustees, to secure the payment of a certain bond executed by the
19 said Elizabeth Branch in the penal sum of \$3000 ~~the amount~~ of the loan
20 being \$1500, and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Corporation Court of the said
21 City October 12, 1898 in Deed Book 8 Page 230, and upon the delivery to him of a
22 deed of trust executed by the said Elizabeth Branch to secure the payment of the
23 in discharge of the said deed of trust, to be evidenced by the bond of said Elizabeth Branch
24 sum so paid, ~~the duty of the said Elizabeth Branch of which is~~ ^{payable to said} ~~Commissioner on demand~~
25 ~~the interest on said bond during her life to~~ ^{be paid to said Elizabeth Branch}
26 ~~the said William Branch & Co~~ ^{the said W. P. Thorne and C. R. Williamson Trustees} and
27 in lieu of a release from the said W. P. Thorne and C. R. Williamson Trustees and
28 the beneficiary under the said deed of trust of March 1st 1898, the said Elizabeth
29 Branch to pay the costs of said release and of the execution of the said deed of
30 trust to be recorded under this decree, and in case of the same shall pay
31 the necessary unpaid but now due on the said bond of \$3000, and the
32 remainder of any of the proceeds now on deposit shall be and are sufficient to

Elizabeth French Lib
76

32 31 30 29 28 27 26 25 24 23 22 21 20 19 18 17 16 15

French Lib

Source

Oct 28th 1901

So be careful.

Robert R. Hunt

Order book 6, page 246..

1 In the Circuit Court of Isle of Wight County, October 28th 1901

2 Elizabeth Branch in her own right and as guardian of William Branch and

3 Louis Branch infants, and others Plaintiffs

4 vs

5 William Branch and others Defendants

6 This cause came on this day to be again heard on the papers

7 formerly read and on the report of George R. Utterman Special

8 Commissioner under these hands of April 22, 1901 to which there

9 are no exceptions and was argued by counsel on consideration

10 whereof both confirm the said report, and the cause is

11 continued.

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

Branch Line 205

40

Branch Line

Exhibit 11

Virginia: In the Corporation Court of the City of Newport News, the
16th. day of April, A. D. 1900.

William E. Branch, orphan of James Branch, deceased,
who is more than fourteen years of age, this day, with the approba-
tion of the Court, made choice of Elizabeth Branch for his guardain,
who together with W. E. Barrett, her security, (who justified on
oath as to his sufficiency) entered into and acknowledged a bond in
the penalty of Four Hundred dollars, conditioned according to law.

And on the same day,

The Court doth assign Elizabeth Branch, guardaan to E.
Louise Branch, orphan of James Branch, deceased, and thereupon the
said Elizabeth Branch, with W E. Barrett, her security, (who jus-
tified on oath as to his sufficiency), entered into and acknowledged
a bond in the penalty of Four hundred dollars, conditioned according
to law.

A Copy,

Teste:-

D. D. English Clerk.
By C. C. Henson Deputy Clerk.

No. 3232

1898

Bond

Elizabeth Branch

— TO —

United Security
Life Insurance and Trust Company
of Pennsylvania.

Third. And do deliver the policy or policies of fire insurance to the said Obligee, its successors or assigns.

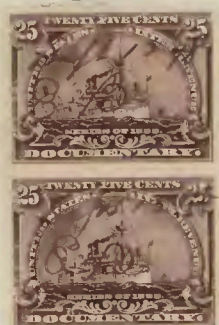
Fourth. And do pay all costs of fire insurance, and also pay all other costs and expenses incurred or expended on account of or in protecting the Trust created by the said Deed;—then this Bond to be null and void, otherwise to be and remain in full force and virtue:—Witness the following signature — and seal.

SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED
IN THE PRESENCE OF

Christie L. Cheever.

W. E. Bennett

Elizabeth Branch



Know All Men by these Presents:

That *I. Elizabeth Branch*, of the City of Newport News, in the County of Warwick and State of Virginia, Widow

(hereinafter called the Obligor) *am* held and firmly bound unto the UNITED SECURITY LIFE INSURANCE AND TRUST COMPANY OF PENNSYLVANIA, a body corporate, duly incorporated under the laws of the State of Pennsylvania (hereinafter called the Obligee), in the sum of *Three thousand*

Dollars, current money of the United States of America, to be paid to the said Obligee, its successors or assigns, to which payment, well and truly to be made, *I* do bind and oblige *myself my* heirs, executors, and administrators, *and every of the* firmly by these presents. The said Obligor waives the benefit of *her* homestead exemption as to this obligation. Sealed with *my* seal and dated this *First* day of *September* in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-eight (1898); this bond is numbered *Thirty-two hundred and thirty-two (3232)*

Whereas, The said Obligee has paid to *the said Obligor* the sum of *One thousand five hundred* Dollars, current money as aforesaid, and in consideration thereof *she* hath entered into an Agreement with the said Obligee in writing, of even date and same number herewith, whereby *she* hath *inter alia*, covenanted, promised, and agreed to and with the said Obligee, its successors and assigns, to pay or cause to be paid to it, the said Obligee, its successors or assigns, at its office in the City of Philadelphia, in the State of Pennsylvania, for the term of *ten* years from the date thereof, if *she* shall live so long, otherwise only so long as *she* shall live, and no longer, each and every of the payments or sums of money set forth and mentioned in the said Agreement, and in the manner and at the dates therein mentioned: and further, to keep and perform such other covenants, promises, and agreements as on *her* part are to be kept and performed.

Now the Condition of this Obligation is such, That if the above bounden Obligor *her* heirs, executors, or administrators, or any of them, do well and truly comply with the following conditions, to wit:

First. Do well and truly pay, or cause to be paid unto the above-named Obligee, its successors or assigns, the aforesaid payments or sums of money on the days when they respectively become due, according to the terms of the above-mentioned Agreement, (and to secure the faithful performance of the covenants, promises, and agreements in the said Agreement contained, this Bond is entered into by the said Obligor...);

Second. And do produce,—to the said Obligee, its successors or assigns, at its said office, on or before the first day of July of each year during the continuance of a certain Deed of Trust, bearing even date herewith, from *the said Obligor to Alfred P. Thom and Constantine G. Williamson*

Trustees, their heirs and assigns as joint tenants, which Deed of Trust was given to secure this Bond and is also numbered *3232* and intended to be forthwith recorded in the Clerk's office of the *Corporation Court for the City of Newport News, in State of* Virginia,—receipts of the proper officer or officers, showing payment of all taxes and assessments charged against the premises, described and granted in the said Deed, and also receipts showing payment of all premiums for effecting and keeping during the continuance of the said Deed and to the satisfaction of the said Obligee, its successors or assigns, a fire insurance in an amount not less than *One thousand five hundred*

Dollars, on the building or buildings on or to be erected on the said premises, described and granted, in the said Deed, in the name of the said *Alfred P. Thom and Constantine G. Williamson* Trustees, or the survivor of them, or substituted Trustees or Trustee, and for the benefit of the Trust created by the said Deed.

VIRGINIA STANDARD POLICY

EXPIRES *October 30, 1903*

PROPERTY *Dwelling*

AMT. \$ *1500.00* PREMIUM, \$ *4.00*

Mrs. Elizabeth Branch

No. *308411*



Home Office, Century Building.



It is important that the written portions of all policies covering the same property read exactly alike. If they do not they should be made uniform at once.

101 147387

-:- Mrs. Elizabeth Branch.-:-

\$1500.00

Upon her two-story, frame, metal roof building, and additions thereto attached, including foundations, plumbing, steam, gas and water pipes, and all permanent fixtures for heating and lighting as a part of the building, situate on the south side of and known as No. 21~~1~~ Twenty-sixth Street, Newport News, Va., as shown in Block No. 77~~3~~ Sheet No. 8, Sanborn's Insurance Map, of Newport News, Va., and occupied by the assured as family residence.

Loss, if any, which may hereafter accrue and be proven due the assured shall be held payable to W. E. Barrett, Trustee, as ~~his~~ his interest may appear.

Electric Light permit, Three Fourths Value and Lightning Clauses attached.

Permission hereby granted to use two Kerosene Oil Stoves in the within described building, oil to be of not less than U. S. Standard, to be filled and trimmed by day light only.

Attached to and forming a part of Policy No. 308411 of the Citizens Insurance Company of Missouri, Saint Louis.

Barrett & West

Agents.



Electric Light Permit.

[FORM 6050]

Privilege is hereby granted to use Electric Lights in the premises mentioned herein, when the electric equipment is in full compliance with the standard of the South-Eastern Tariff Association.

If dynamos, excitors, lamps, switches or motors are insured by this Policy, this insurance excludes any loss or damage to them such as may be caused by electric currents, whether artificial or natural, and will be liable only for such loss or damage to them, which may occur in consequence of fire in the building herein described, and originating outside of the machines themselves.

Attached to Policy No. 3084 of the CITIZENS INSURANCE COMPANY OF MISSOURI, St Louis.

Dated June 10 1903

Barrett & Co. Agent S.

NOTE.—Agents will sign and attach one each to Policy, Daily Report, and Register.

CITIZENS
INSURANCE COMPANY
OF
MISSOURI.
ST. LOUIS.

Three-fourths Value Clause.

This insurance is also effected subject to the Three-fourths Value Clause as follows :

It is understood and agreed to be a condition of this insurance, that in the event of loss or damage by fire to the property insured under this Policy, this Company shall not be liable for an amount greater than three-fourths of the actual cash value of each item of property insured by this Policy (not exceeding the amount insured on each such item) at the time immediately preceding such loss or damage ; and in the event of additional insurance—if any is permitted hereon—then this Company shall be liable for its proportion only of three-fourths such cash value of each item insured at the time of the fire, not exceeding the amount insured on each such item.



Attached to Policy No. 308411 of the CITIZENS INSURANCE COMPANY OF MISSOURI, St Louis.

Dated

June 10th 1903

Barrett West

Agent^s.

NOTE.—Agents will sign and attach one each to Policy, Daily Report, and Register.

LIGHTNING CLAUSE.

[FORM 6015]

This Policy shall cover any direct loss or damage caused by Lightning (meaning thereby the commonly accepted use of the term Lightning, and in no case to include loss or damage by cyclone, tornado, or wind-storm), not exceeding the sum insured, nor the interest of the insured in the property, and subject in all other respects to the terms and conditions of this Policy. *Provided*, however, if there shall be any other insurance on said property, this Company shall be liable only *pro rata* with such other insurance for any direct loss by Lightning, whether such other insurance be against direct loss by Lightning or not.

**CITIZENS
INSURANCE COMPANY**

MISSOURI

ST. LOUIS.

Attached to Policy No. 308411 of the CITIZENS INSURANCE COMPANY OF MISSOURI, St. Louis.

Dated January 10 1903

Barrett & Co. Agent

NOTE.—Agents will sign and attach one each to Policy, Daily Report, and Register.

All Available Text Successfully Captured

No. 308411

\$1500.00

THE CITIZENS INSURANCE COMPANY OF MISSOURI.

ST. LOUIS.

ORGANIZED 1837.

In Consideration of the Stipulations herein named and of Seven Dollars Premium
Does Insure Mrs. Elizabeth Branch for the term of 4 mos. 20 days
from the 10 day of June 1903, at noon, to the 30 day of October 1903, at noon,
against all direct loss or damage by fire, except as hereinafter provided,
To an amount not exceeding Fifteen Hundred Dollars,
to the following described property while located and contained as described herein, and not elsewhere, to wit:

Electric light plant, pipes, fixtures, and machinery
the interest was shared.
the same was sold by the insured to M. E. Berleff, trustee, and
loss, it was, which was received by the insured and by the
Mons. As. and occupied by the insured as family residence.
Block No. 111, Street No. 8, St. Louis, a insurance was of Newbold

This company shall not be liable beyond the actual cash value of the property at the time any loss or damage occurs, and the loss or damage shall be ascertained or estimated according to such actual cash value, with proper deduction for depreciation however caused, and shall in no event exceed what it would then cost the insured to repair or replace the same with material of like kind and quality; said ascertainment or estimate shall be made by the insured and this company, or, if they differ, then by appraisers, as hereinafter provided; and, the amount of loss or damage having been thus determined, the sum for which this company is liable pursuant to this policy shall be payable sixty days after due notice, ascertainment, estimate, and satisfactory proof of the loss have been received by this company in accordance with the terms of this policy. It shall be optional, however, with this company to take all, or any part, of the articles at such ascertained or appraised value, and also to repair, rebuild, or replace the property lost or damaged with other of like kind and quality within a reasonable time on giving notice, within thirty days after the receipt of the proof herein required, of its intention so to do; but there can be no abandonment to this company of the property described.

This entire policy shall be void if the insured has concealed or misrepresented, in writing or otherwise, any material fact or circumstance concerning this insurance or the subject thereof; or if the interest of the insured in the property be not truly stated herein; or in case of any fraud or false swearing by the insured touching any matter relating to this insurance or the subject thereof, whether before or after a loss.

This entire policy, unless otherwise provided by agreement indorsed hereon or added hereto, shall be void if the insured now has or shall hereafter make or procure any other contract of insurance, whether valid or not, on property covered in whole or in part by this policy; or if the subject of insurance be a manufacturing establishment and it be operated in whole or in part at night later than 10 o'clock, or if it cease to be operated for more than ten consecutive days; or if the hazard be increased by any means within the control or knowledge of the insured; or if mechanics be employed in building, altering, or repairing the within described premises for more than fifteen days at any one time; or if the interest of the insured be other than unconditional and sole ownership; or if the subject of insurance be a building on ground not owned by the insured in fee-simple; or if the subject of insurance be personal property and be or become incumbered by a chattel mortgage; or if, with the knowledge of the insured, foreclosure proceedings be commenced, or notice given of sale of any property covered by this policy by virtue of any mortgage or trust deed; or if any change, other than by the death of an insured, take place in the interest, title, or possession of the subject of insurance (except change of occupant without increase of hazard) whether by legal process or judgment or by voluntary act of the insured, or otherwise; or if this policy be assigned before a loss; or if illuminating gas or vapor be generated in the described building (or adjacent thereto) for use therein; or if (any usage or custom of trade or manufacture to the contrary notwithstanding) there be kept, used, or allowed on the above described premises, benzine, benzole, dynamite, ether, fireworks, gasoline, greek fire, gunpowder exceeding twenty-five pounds in quantity, naphtha, nitro-glycerine or other explosives, phosphorus, or petroleum or any of its products of greater inflammability than kerosene oil of the United States standard (which last may be used for lights and kept for sale according to law but in quantities not exceeding five barrels, provided it be drawn and lamps filled by daylight or at a distance not less than ten feet from artificial light); or if a building herein described, whether intended for occupancy by owner or tenant, be or become vacant or unoccupied and so remain for ten days.

This company shall not be liable for loss caused directly or indirectly by invasion, insurrection, riot, civil war or commotion, or military or usurped power, or by order of any civil authority; or by theft; or by neglect of the insured to use all reasonable means to save and preserve the property at and after a fire or when the property is endangered by fire in neighboring premises; or (unless fire ensues, and, in that event, for the damage by fire only) by explosion of any kind, or lightning; but liability for direct damage by lightning may be assumed by specific agreement hereon.

If a building or any part thereof fall, except as a result of fire, all insurance by this policy on such building or its contents shall immediately cease.

This company shall not be liable for loss to accounts, bills, currency, deeds, evidences of debt, money, notes, or securities; nor, unless liability is specifically assumed hereon, for loss to awnings, bullion, casts, curiosities, drawings, dies, implements, jewels, manuscripts, medals, models, patterns, pictures, scientific apparatus, signs, store or office furniture or fixtures, sculpture, tools, or property held on storage or for repairs; nor, beyond the actual value destroyed by fire, for loss occasioned by ordinance or law regulating construction or repair of buildings, or by interruption of business, manufacturing processes, or otherwise; nor for any greater proportion of the value of plate glass, frescoes, and decorations than that which this policy shall bear to the whole insurance on the building described.

If an application, survey, plan, or description of property be referred to in this policy it shall be a part of this contract and a warranty by the insured.

In any matter relating to this insurance no person, unless duly authorized in writing, shall be deemed the agent of this company.

This policy may by a renewal be continued under the original stipulations, in consideration of premium for the renewed term, provided that any increase of hazard must be made known to this company at the time of renewal or this policy shall be void.

This policy shall be canceled at any time at the request of the insured; or by the company by giving five days' notice of such cancellation. If this policy shall be canceled as hereinbefore provided, or become void or cease, the premium having been actually paid, the unearned portion shall be returned on surrender of this policy or last renewal, this company retaining the customary short rate; except that when this policy is canceled by this company by giving notice it shall retain only the *pro rata* premium.

If, with the consent of this company, an interest under this policy shall exist in favor of a mortgagee or of any person or corporation having an interest in the subject of insurance other than the interest of the insured as described herein, the conditions hereinbefore contained shall apply in the manner expressed in such provisions and conditions of insurance relating to such interest as shall be written upon, attached, or appended hereto.

This policy is made and accepted subject to the foregoing stipulations and conditions, together with such other provisions, agreements, or conditions as may be indorsed hereon or added hereto, and no officer, agent, or other representative of this company shall have power to waive any provision or condition of this policy except such as by the terms of this policy may be the subject of agreement indorsed hereon or added hereto, and as to such provisions and conditions no officer, agent, or representative shall have such power or be deemed or held to have waived such provisions or conditions unless such waiver, if any, shall be written upon or attached hereto, nor shall any privilege or permission affecting the insurance under this policy exist or be claimed by the insured unless so written or attached.

In Witness Whereof, this company has executed and attested these presents this 10th day of June 1903.

This Policy shall not be valid until countersigned by the duly authorized Agent of the Company at NEWPORT NEWS, VA.

Countersigned by [Signature] Agent.

[Signature] Secretary

[Signature] President.

Assignment of Interest by Insured.

The interest of.....as owner of property
covered by this policy is hereby assigned to.....
subject to the consent of **THE CITIZENS INSURANCE COMPANY OF MISSOURI.**

.....
[Signature of the Insured.]

Date.....

NOTE.—To secure Mortgagees, if desired, the policy should be made payable on its face to such Mortgagee, as follows:
Loss, if any, payable to *John Doe*, Mortgagee.

Consent by Company to Assignment of Interest.

THE CITIZENS INSURANCE COMPANY OF MISSOURI hereby consents that the
interest of.....as owner of the property
covered by this policy be assigned to.....

.....
[Signature for Company.]

Dated.....

Cancellation Receipt.

\$.....

In consideration of the sum of.....Dollars,
to.....paid by.....Agent of **THE CITIZENS INSURANCE
COMPANY OF MISSOURI**, at.....this Policy is hereby
acknowledged canceled, and surrendered to the said Company.

.....
[Signature of the Insured.]

Dated.....

GUARANTEE.

In consideration of the acceptance of this policy by the insured and the payment of
the premium thereon, and in pursuance of an agreement by it with the Citizens Insurance
Company of Missouri, the **HARTFORD FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY** hereby guarantees this
policy and the performance of the provisions contained therein.

HARTFORD FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

Geo. L. Chase President.

(6)

Elizabeth Branch
To Dnd Trust
W. E. Barrett Trustee.

RECEIVED, AND WITH CERTIFICATES
ANNEXED, ADMITTED TO RECORD

MAY 7 1891

MAY 12 10.....

RECEIVED.....

Elizabeth Branch Trust

43-421

Received by Trust Co. May 20 1891

and examined

By Dr. Smith
By C. H. Hargrave

150
280

VIRGINIA—City of Newport News, To-wit:

In the Clerk's Office of the Corporation Court for the City of
Newport News, the 7th day of May 1901
this Deed was presented, and with the Certificate annexed,
admitted to record at 12:10 o'clock P. M.

Teste:

W. D. Smith Clerk.
By B. C. Hargrave &c

for the further protection of the said commissioner or his successor or assigns, and in the event of her failure so to do then the Trustee, or the beneficiaries under this deed, may effect or renew such insurance from time to time, so long as the said debt, or any part thereof, remains unpaid, and the insurance premiums shall constitute a part of the lien created by this deed, to be paid out of the proceeds of the property, if sold, or to be recoverable by all the remedies in law or equity by which the debt aforesaid may be recoverable.

If no default shall be made in the payment of the above mentioned bond when it becomes due and payable, then upon the request of the party of the first part a good and sufficient deed of release shall be executed to her at her own proper costs and charges.

Witness the following signature and seal:-

Elizabeth Branch (SEAL)

State of Virginia,

City of Newport News, to-wit:-

I, Edw. West a Notary Public
in and for the City of Newport News, in the State of Virginia, do hereby certify that Elizabeth Branch, whose name is signed to the foregoing writing, bearing date on the 7th day of May, in the year nineteen hundred and one, has acknowledged the same before me in my City aforesaid.

Given under my hand this 7 day of May, 1901.

Edw. West Notary Public.
Commission Expires March 5, 1902

bond, being payable during her life time to the said Elizabeth Branch.

I n t h e e v e n t that default shall be made in the payment of the above described bond, as it becomes due and payable, then the Trustee, on being required so to do by the said Geo. R. Atkinson, Special Commissioner, his successors or assigns, shall sell the property hereby conveyed.

A n d it is covenanted and agreed by and between the parties aforesaid that in case of a sale the same shall be made after first advertising the time, place and terms thereof for fifteen (15) days, by printed posters posted in five or more public places in the City of Newport News, or by advertisement in some daily newspaper published in the said city, and upon the following terms to-wit: For cash as to so much of the proceeds as may be necessary to defray the expenses of executing this trust, including a Trustee's commission of five per centum on the gross sales, and to discharge the amount of money then payable upon the said bond, and if there be any residue of the purchase money the same shall be made payable at such time and secured in such manner as the said party of the first part, her heirs or assigns shall prescribe and direct, or in case of their failure to give such direction, at such time and in such manner as the trustee shall think fit. The said party of the first part covenants to pay all taxes, assessments, dues and charges upon the property hereby conveyed so long as she or her heirs or assigns shall hold the same; and further covenants and agrees to keep the buildings on the property hereby conveyed insured for the full amount of FIFTEEN HUNDRED DOLLARS

T H I S D E E D , made this 7th day of May, in the year 1901, between Mrs. Elizabeth Branch, ^{Mrs.} of the City of Newport News, State of Virginia, party of the first part, and W. E. Barrett, Trustee, of the City and State aforeaaid, party of the second part,

WITNESSETH:- That the said party ~~of~~ the first part doth grant unto the said party of the second part, the following property, to-wit:

All that certain lot, piece or parcel of ground, situate and being in the City of Newport News, Virginia, known and designated by the lot Number Thirty-one (31) in block number Seventy-seven (77) on a certain map, entitled "Map of part of the City of Newport News, Virginia," which said map is duly recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Corporation Court of the City of Newport News, in PlatBook No. 1, page 3, being the same property which was conveyed to the said Elizabeth Branch by deed of Emmett A. Cooke, dated the 23rd day of October, 1897, and recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Corporation Court of the City of Newport News, in Deed Book No. 5, page 325:

Together with the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging, or in anywise appertaining,

I n t r u s t, however, to secure the payment of a certain bond bearing even date herewith, executed by the said Elizabeth Branch, and payable to the order of Geo. R. Atkinson, Special Commissioner, appointed by the Circuit Court of Isle of Wight County in the Chancery suit of Elizabeth Branch in her own right, and as guardian of William Branch and Louise Branch and others, plaintiffs, and the said William Branch, Louise Branch and others defendants, in the sum of TWELVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FOUR DOLLARS AND TWO CENTS (\$1254.02) the interest on the said

Elizabeth Branch

to TRUST DEED

W. E. Barrett, Trustee.

1901. July 29. Recd
and A.R. at 3:30
p.m.

D. C. Smith att
By G. B. Hargrave

Recorded in Deed Book No. 20. Page 330
and examined.

D. C. Smith Clerk.
By G. B. Hargrave

LAW OFFICES

W. E. Barrett, Attorney-at-Law,

229, 25th St., Newport News, Va.

Fee
Pay

1.25
.50

1.75

State of Virginia,

City of Newport News, to-wit:

in chancery of the Circuit Court
~~a Notary Public~~ *I, C.A. Ashby, a commissioner*
in and for the City of Newport News, in the
State of Virginia, do hereby certify that Elizabeth Branch,
whose name is signed to the foregoing writing, bearing date on
the 20th day of July, in the year 1901, has acknowledged the
same before me in my City aforesaid.

Given under my hand this 26th day of July, 1901.

C. A. Ashby N.P.
Comrs in chcy.

VIRGINIA—City of Newport News, To-wit:

In the Clerk's Office of the Corporation Court for the City of
Newport News, the 29th day of July 1901
this Deed was presented, and with the Certificate annexed,
admitted to record at 3.30 o'clock P. M.

Teste:

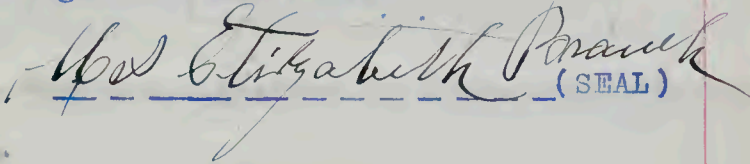
W. Smith Clerk.
By B. Hargrave *de*

payment of the above described bond, as it becomes due and payable, then the Trustee, on being required so to do by the said Geo. R. Atkinson, Special Commissioner, his successors or assigns, shall sell the property hereby conveyed.

And it is covenanted and agreed by and between the parties aforesaid that in case of a sale the same shall be made after first advertising the time, place and terms thereof for fifteen (15) days by printed posters, posted in five or more public places in the City of Newport News, or by advertisement in some daily newspaper published in the said city, and upon the following terms, to-wit: For cash as to so much of the proceeds as may be necessary to defray the expenses of executing this trust, including a Trustee's commission of five per centum on the gross sales and to discharge the amount of money then payable upon the said bond, and if there be any residue of the purchase money the same shall be made payable at such time, and secured in such manner as the said party of the first part, her heirs or assigns shall prescribe and direct, or in case of their failure to give such direction, at such time, and in such manner as the Trustee shall think fit.

If no default shall be made in the payment of the above mentioned bond as it becomes due and payable then upon the request of the party of the first part, her heirs, executors or administrators, a good and sufficient deed of release shall be executed to her at her own proper costs and charges.

Witness the following signature and seal:



(SEAL)

T H I S D E E D, Made this 20th day of July, in the year 1901, between Elizabeth Branch, widow, of the City of Newport News, State of Virginia, party of the first part, and W. E. Barrett, Trustee, of the City and State aforesaid, party of the second part,

WITNESSETH:- That the said party of the first part doth grant unto the said party of the second part, the following property, to-wit:

All that certain lot, piece or parcel of ground, situate and being in the City of Newport News, Virginia, known as and designated by the lot number Thirty-one (31) in block number Seventy-seven (77) on a certain map, entitled "Map of part of the City of Newport News, Virginia," which said map is duly recorded in the Clerk's Office of the Corporation Court of the City of Newport News, in Plat Book No. 1, page 3, being the same property that was conveyed by the said Elizabeth Branch to W. E. Barrett, Trustee, by deed dated the 7th of May, 1901, and duly recorded in the Clerk's office of the Corporation Court of the City of Newport News, in Deed Book No. 20, page 153;

T o g e t h e r with the tenements, hereditaments and appurtenances thereunto belonging or in anywise appertaining;

I n t r u s t, however, to secure the payment of a certain bond, bearing even date herewith, executed by the said Elizabeth Branch, and payable to the order of Geo. R. Atkinson, Special Commissioner, appointed by the Circuit Court of Isle of Wight County in the Chancery suit of Elizabeth Branch in her own right, and as guardian of William Branch and Louise Branch and others, plaintiffs, and the said William Branch, Louise Branch and others, defendants, in the sum of ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-TWO DOLLARS AND TWENTY-TWO CENTS (\$142.22), the interest of the said bond being payable during her life time to the said Elizabeth Branch.

I n t h e e v e n t that default shall be made in the

Peru

32	31	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18	17	16	15	14	13	12	11	10	9	8	7	6	5	4	3	2	1
----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

1 We James M Branch, principal and Mary J Branch his surety
2 do jointly and severally promise to pay to George R Atkinson Commissioner of
3 sale on or within six months after date, Seven hundred and eighty dollars and
4 sixty five cents, with interest thereon from date, in full of the first installment
5 of the price of a tract of land this day sold by the said Commissioner under decree
6 of the General Court of Isle of Wight county in the suit of Elizabeth Branch versus
7 John and others plaintiffs against William Branch and others defendants, and
8 we do hereby waive our objection as to this debt.

9 Witness our hands and seals the 5th day of March 1900.

10 J M Branch
11 Mary J. Branch

12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32

14 We James M Branch principal and Mary J Branch his surety do jointly
15 and severally promise to pay to George R Atkinson Commissioner of sale
16 on or within twelve months after date Seven hundred and eighty dollars
17 and sixty five cents with interest thereon from date in full of the second
18 installment of the price of a tract of land this day sold by the said
19 Commissioner under decree of the General Court of Isle of Wight county
20 in the suit of Elizabeth Branch versus John and others plaintiffs
21 against William Branch and others defendants and we do hereby waive
22 our objection as to this debt.

23 Witness our hands and seals this 5th day of March 1900.

24 J M Branch
25 Mary J. Branch

26
27
28
29
30
31
32

1954

Bank of Elizabeth Branch
\$1254.02

1954

1954

Newport News, Va., May 7, 1901.

%%
%\$1254.02%
%%

On demand I promise to pay Geo. R. Atkinson, Commissioner of sale in the suit of the Circuit Court of Isle of Wight County in the name of Elizabeth Branch, in her own right, and as guardian of William Branch and Louise Branch and others, plaintiffs, and the said William Branch, Louise Branch and others, defendants, in the sum of TWELVE HUNDRED AND FIFTY-FOUR DOLLARS AND TWO CENTS (\$1254.02) ; the interest on the said bond to be payable during her life to the said Elizabeth Branch.

Given under my hand and seal this 7th day of May, 1901.



Elizabeth Branch (SEAL)

²⁷
Consent of
Parties

Enter both the
consent and
ordr. Nov. 8, 1899
Robert D. Perkins.

November 13th 1899
Received consent of record
Teste
N. G. Young & Co.

account entered in reaction.
To the Clerk of the
Circuit Court of
the County of
Robert D. Perkins

We consent that the Circuit Court of Isle of Wight County
shall have in vacation, ^{on the 8th day of November 1899, or within any time to the} this said Court and any persons before
Elizabeth Branch in her own right and as guardian of William
Branch and Louise Branch infants under 21 years of age, Ed
ward Marshall and Helen his wife Walter Edwards and Emma
his wife M R Minton Jr and Lillian his wife, Sarah Branch
and James M Branch plaintiffs against ~~Walter~~ the said
William Branch and Louise Branch infants under 21 years
of age and John J Branch defendants and grant a decree
for inquiry and account,

Two Relations of counsel

for the plaintiffs,

George S. Branch
R. S. Thomas, guardian
ad litem for William & Louise Branch

Circuit Court of Isle of Wight County
in vacation, on the 8th day of
November 1899.

Elizabeth Branch Guardian, and others
~~vs~~ N. -

William Branch infant, and others.

I Robert R. Prentiss Judge of the
Circuit Court of Isle of Wight County
do certify that the parties to the above
entitled cause have consented that
it may be submitted in vacation
and a decree for inquiries and

Geo R. Atkinson comes in
the out of
Branch et al vs. Branch et al

to } COMMISSIONER'S
BOND.

Commonwealth.

a copy

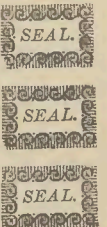
I know all Men by these Presents, That we George R. Atkinson and
V. W. Joyner
are held and firmly bound unto the Commonwealth of Virginia, in the sum of
Two Thousand Dollars,
to the payment whereof, well and truly to be made to the said Commonwealth of Virginia, we bind ourselves
and each of us, our and each of our heirs, executors and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly
by these presents, hereby waiving the benefit of our Homestead Exemptions as to this obligation,
and any claim or right to discharge any liability to the Commonwealth arising under this bond, or by
virtue of said office, post or trust, with coupons detached from the bonds of this State. Sealed with our
seals, and dated this 20th day of January, ~~one thousand~~
~~eight hundred and ninety~~ 1900.

THE CONDITION OF THE ABOVE OBLIGATION IS SUCH, That if the above bound George
R. Atkinson
shall faithfully perform the duties of his office or trust, as Commissioner of
Sales
under decree of the Circuit Court of the County of Isle of Wight
pronounced on the 20 day of January, 1900. In vacation, in the suit therein
depending under the name and style of Elizabeth Branch et als. vs.
Branch et als.

then this obligation to be void, otherwise to remain in full force and virtue.

Signed, sealed and acknowledged in
in the presence of

Geo. R. Atkinson
V. W. Joyner



In the Clerk's Office of the Circuit Court of the County of Isle of Wight

This day V. W. Joyner

surety on the above bond, made oath before me, N. F. Young, Clerk
of the Circuit Court of the County of Isle of Wight
that his estate, after the payment of all his just debts, and those for which he is bound
as security for others and expects to have to pay, he is worth the sum of Two
Thousand dollars.

Given under my hand, this 25th day of January, 1900, 1890.

N. F. Young Clerk.

a copy. Teste
N. F. Young co.

ON DEMAND I promise to pay to
GOE. R. ATKINSON, Commissioner of Sale in
the suit in the Circuit Court of Isle
of Wight County in the name of ELIZABETH
BRANCH, in her own right, and as the guar-
dian of WILLIAM BRANCH and LOUISE BRANCH and oth-
ers, plaintiffs, and the said WILLIAM BRANCH
and LOUISE BRANCH and others, defendants,
the sum of ONE HUNDRED AND FORTY-
TWO DOLLARS AND TWENTY-TWO CENTS
(\$142.22) : the interest on the said sum
to be payable during her life to the
said ELIZABETH BRANCH.

Given under my hand and seal this
20th day of July, 1901.

Mrs Elizabeth Branch (SEAL)