

To the Honble the Judge of the Circuit
Superior Court of Law & Chancery for
the Town of Petersburg in Chancery
Sitting - The answer of Thomas Hunt
late Sheriff of said town in that character
administration with the will annexed
of Edwin Lanier dec'd. to the Bill of
Complaint exhibited agt him & others by Jane
a free coloured person. - This defendt. Davy v.
for answer d. saith, that he assented to the
freedom of the s^d. Complainant, as he thought,
in obedience to the requisitions of law. That is
his Deputy Jope Hargraves did so for him. That
this defendt. knows & knew of the matter only
what his said Deputy represents to him: He
was the High Sheriff at the time the estate
of s^d. Lanier was committed to him: & the s^d.
Hargraves had undertaken to perform (with others)
the duty of Sheriff. That upon s^d. Hargraves in
conformity with that undertaking devolved the duty
of administering the s^d. Lanier's estate with the will
of s^d. Lanier dec'd. annexed. This defendt. represents that
it is not true that there was estate which came
to his hands sufficient to pay all the debts without
requiring something to be paid by the plaintiff; or
his account ~~with~~ ^{with} ~~show~~. This defendt. had no right to
interfere with the lands, or to dispose of the plaintiff.
This defendt. represents that his account current has
been fully settled up & he has nothing in his
hands or subject to his control belonging to the
estate nor is there any thing that he knows of
out of which to pay the judgment against ^{him or any of} Edwin Lanier
& that in favour of ^{colls' due for} Jas. B. Westers. Executions
upon

upon which the Plaintiff alleges have been
levied upon her? This deft. had nothing
where with to pay the same & refers your
Honor to a copy of his account current
recorded in Super a copy of which will in due
time be filed - for proof of that fact. This
deft. appointed to the freedom of the Plaintiff
believing that there would be assets sufficient to
pay the debt on the estate - But it turns
out that there is a deficiency. - This deft.
having thus answered may be deemed
dismissed. &c.

Superior County, to wit:
I, J. H. Hargrave Deputy of Tho. Hunt late Sheriff
& Admr with the will annexed of Edwin Lanier
decd. - this day personally appeared before me a
justice of the peace in the County aforesd. &
made oath that he as Deputy of the sd. Hunt
took charge of sd. estate & had the entire manage-
ment thereof for sd. Hunt, ~~at the~~ ^{in the} admin. with
the will annexed. That he believes sd. Hunt has no
knowledge of the business except what information
he gave him. That the foregoing account contains the
truth to be best of this deft's knowledge & belief
Given under my hand this 10th day
of June 1836. —
Leopold Dillard (J.P.)