

Jane  
v.  
Lanier

Commissioner Gaines Office  
Petersburg Septemr. 30 1839

The commissioner respectfully reports to the Court that he issued a notice in this case on the 15<sup>th</sup> of July past, appointing the 29<sup>th</sup> of September instant, for the parties attendanced before him at his office in Petersburg for the purpose of executing the order of the 15<sup>th</sup> day of June 1836.: On the day appointed for the settlement of the accounts directed by said order, the defendant Hunt as Shff. and Admr. of Lanier, by his Counsel, laid before the Commissioner the accounts No. 1 & 2 containing a Complete Settlement, before the County Court of Sussex, of all the Admr's transactions with the Testator's Estate from its commencement in the year 1828, to the 1<sup>st</sup> of January 1831, by which accounts, which were duly admitted to record in said Court, it appears that the Estate of the Testator was indebted to Thomas Hunt as Shff. Admr. &c. as aforesaid, on the day last mentioned, in the sum of \$25.24 with interest on \$19.35 part thereof aforesaid date till paid.—

The Commissioner is advised by the Admr. through his counsel, that he has had no subsequent transactions with the Testator's Estate, and that he therefore has no additional accounts to render in compliance with said order.—

It appears that the Legacies of slaves and other property mentioned in the Will of E. Lanier decd., were not delivered or paid over by the Admr., as it was necessary to make sale of them for the payment of Debts,—and all the property which came to the Admor's hands was sold and accounted for in the accounts before mentioned.

The Commissioner further reports that the Admr. supposing that there would be a sufficiency of personal property to pay the debts of the Estate without in any manner resorting to the sale or any other disposition of the plaintiff Jane, and therefore assenting to her emancipation in accordance with the Testator's Will, declined to exercise any authority or control over her, and hence he never hired her out: the Commissioner ascertains upon enquiry, that she had an infant or very young child born after the decease of the Testator, and being a breeding woman ever since, has now three or four children. In answer to that branch of the order which directs a statement to be made in relation to “the reasonable hire or profits of the plaintiff annually” the Commissioner reports that from such information as he has been enabled to procure upon the subject he supposes that the plaintiff Jane would have hired from the year 1828, when the Admr. qualified, down to the present time, for something like \$25 per annum.

Very respectfully &c.  
H.B. Gaines Com.

Commr's fee including notice  
\$5.00. charged to Lewis Lanier