

**THE STATE OF MARYLAND, TO**

*James S. Luter &  
The Mayor & City Council of  
Baltimore*

OF BALTIMORE *City* - GREETING:

WE COMMAND AND ENJOIN YOU, That all excuses set aside, you be in your person before the Judge of the Superior Court of Baltimore City, at the Court House in said City, on the *first day of*  
*December* day of \_\_\_\_\_ next, to answer the complaint of

*George P. Kane*

against you in the said Court exhibited.

HEREOF fail not, as you will answer the contrary at your peril.

WITNESS the Honorable Z. COLLINS LEE, Judge of our said Court, the *first*  
day of *November* in the year of our Lord eighteen hundred and fifty *eight*

ISSUED the *22<sup>o</sup>* day of *November* 185 *8*

*Geo. C. Langston*

164  
1838

July (5)

George P. Kane

27

James S. Inter of  
The Mayor of City  
Council of  
Baltimore

Subpo

Summoned Under  
The Mayor City Council of Balto  
by Service on The Sworn Mayor.

Wm Creamer

D. F. Sheriff  
Fair Dec 1838



The Joint and several answer of The Mayor & City Council of Baltimore and James S. Suter to the Bill of complaint of George P. Kane, filed against them in this Honorable Court

These respondents reserving to themselves the benefit of exceptions to the many errors, misstatements and mistakes in said Bill contained, nevertheless for answer therunto, answering say that they admit that Samuel D. Forge had a tract of land on Jones Falls upon which was erected a mill, called the Rockdale Mill and that Jones Falls flowed through the said tract and was used as the water power for said Mill: these Defendants also admit that under the act of Assembly passed at its session of 1853 Ch 376, the Mayor & City Council of Baltimore did procure by all the necessary legal steps, by inquisition, verdict of the Jury and confirmation thereof by the Circuit Court of Baltimore County, condemnation of a part of said land, and the absolute fee simple Estate, in the part thus condemned - That the amount awarded by the Jury under said Inquisition was thirty two thousand dollars for the land and water rights taken and the entire and absolute fee simple Estate therein, which afterwards became vested in said City. That to the portion of the land & water & water rights thus condemned, the said Kane has not the shadow of a title of any kind whatsoever - that the Dam, the demolition of which, by these Defendants, is complained of in the said Bill, abutted on both sides of said Falls, upon the land so aforesaid condemned to the use of the Mayor & City Council of Baltimore - and that the Stream of Jones Falls as it flowed in its bed, ran upon the land & was confined in its channel by its banks which land & banks and all water rights thereunto attached belong to the Mayor & City Council of Baltimore, up to high water mark, exclusively & in fee: that so far from the said Stream or the Banks thereof belonging to the

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said Kane, the lines of the land so as aforesaid condemned,  
form in part the boundaries of the property purchased by the  
said Kane, and that the said land & water rights thereunto  
attached, are expressly excluded from his contract of purchase  
which will appear by the terms of the Published Advertisements  
of sale, under which his said purchase was made & which  
is herewith filed as a part of this answer - marked **A**

And These Respondents further state that after the  
confirmation of the Inquisition aforesaid, the said Forge  
having refused the amount awarded to him therein;  
and notice also having been given to the said Mayor  
Heldy Council of Baltimore by persons claiming certain  
interests in the said land, and also to the sum awarded  
by said Jury and warning them not to pay the same  
to the said Forge, that the said Mayor Heldy Council of  
Baltimore found a Bill of interpleaders to be filed in the  
Circuit Court for Baltimore City, wherein it was prayed  
among other things that upon payment into said Court  
of the sum of Thirty-two thousand dollars being the  
sum so as aforesaid awarded by the Jury in the Inquisition  
case of the Mayor Heldy Council of Baltimore against said  
Forge, that the said Court would decree that such  
payment for the benefit of whomsoever might be entitled  
to it should be equivalent to a tender of the amount to  
said Forge, that an Injunction might issue prohibiting  
suit to be brought against the City; and that the  
Claimants should implead each other in that Court,  
and that the Mayor Heldy Council of Baltimore should be  
decreed to be the full & true fee simple owners of all  
said Property land & water rights condemned  
in said Inquisition case, to the use & occupation  
of the said City; that said sum was accordingly  
paid under order & decree of said Court, to await the  
final disposition of the fund among the Claimants

thereunto: that some time after the money was thus paid into the Court said Forge petitioned for the benefit of the Insolvent laws and that Thomas M. Lanahan was appointed & duly qualified as his permanent Trustee, and in that character applied to the said Circuit Court for the money which had been paid therein as aforesaid - that said cause was so proceeded in, that said Circuit Court passed its final decree, awarding the entire fee simple estate in the land condemned by the said Inquisition, to be vested in the City of Baltimore: and that the money therefore what had been paid into Court as aforesaid should be delivered over to said Lanahan to be by him distributed in his character of Merchant Trustee, to whomsoever might be entitled to the same.

That said Lanahan in his character of permanent Trustee of said Forge did offer all that Real Estate of said Forge for sale - upon the 12 May 1858 and did exclude from the advertisement of sale that part of the land & water rights of said Forge which had been previously & as aforesaid condemned under said Inquisition: and the fee simple in which had been decreed in the said cause to be vested in the Mayor & City Council of Baltimore: and these Respondents deny as is asserted in said Bill that when the property which was purchased by said Kane was up for sale, that it was sold as a "Merchant Flour mill having valuable water rights thereto appended: on the contrary of this allegation, these respondents aver that no <sup>water</sup> rights whatever were attached to or contained within the territorial limits of the land purchased by said Kane, or described in said advertisement as appendant or appurtenant thereto: and in fact these

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respondents aver that said land and water & rights claimed by the City of Baltimore and so as aforesaid condemned for its use were expressly excluded from the land purchased by said Kane by his contract with said Trustee - wherefore he has not a shadow or plausible pretence of title to what he claims in and by his said Bill

These Respondents admit that shortly after his purchase of said property he was put into possession of the same, but they deny that any possession was given to him of the land or water rights so as aforesaid belonging to the City of Baltimore, but taking advantage of the portion which his purchase afforded him and of the opportunity thus offered, of using what did not belong to him the said Kane has most wrongfully and contrary to the repeated warnings and remonstrances of these respondents, continued to use for his own emolument, the water and dam of the said City, in doing his mill, in defiance of the said City and in contempt of its rights

These respondents have no knowledge of any contract existing between the said Complainant with Alexander Manchester, Esq. relative to the manufacture of any quantity of flour and therefore neither admit or deny the same and leave the complainant to the proof thereof - But these Respondents aver that said Kane had no authority or right to enter into a contract, the fulfillment of which depended upon the use of the dam and water rights of the City of Baltimore.

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These Respondents deny that the said James S. Suter did enter upon the dam belonging to the Rockdale Mill, as there was & is no such dam in existence that these respondents know of, and destroyed the same or any part thereof; but they admit that they entered upon the dam belonging to the said City, the water from which without right thereto had been wrongfully used by said Kane, and removed a part thereof, whereby the water which had been impeded in its flow by the said dam was restored to its accustomed and proper channel; and these Defendants admit that they did destroy the said dam in part and assert their right so to do as it was the property of the City & by its authority that the act was done: that it is essentially necessary to the introduction and continuance of a supply of pure water within & in the limits of the City of Baltimore, that the authorities thereof should have the absolute control of the flow of water down the Falls & unimpeded by any obstacle of a permanent character and immovable at their will; that the Water Board under the ordinances of the City, having in charge the management & control of the operation of bringing into & distributing through the City pure water from Jones Falls, have been greatly obstructed and inconvenienced in the performance of their duties by means of the irregular flow of Jones Falls by reason of said dam & the use of the water from therefrom by said Kane so that they cannot at all times, and in such quantities only as may be required, cause the same to flow as would be desirable through the pipes prepared to receive it. Some times the water will be held up when it is wanted and at others flow rapidly down & in larger quantities than can be properly distributed and thus wasted and lost.

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these respondents admit that the City of Baltimore does claim the unqualified and absolute fee simple estate in all the said land & water & water rights so as aforesaid to condemn<sup>to</sup> their use. and thereby to sustain such title not only upon the decree of the said Circuit Court for Baltimore City, made in a cause, wherein the said Thomas McLanahan trustee of said Tonge was a party, under which the complainant claims, but also under the authority of the said act of Assembly by which the corporations are expressly empowered to acquire by condemnation the fee simple in any land, real estate, spring brook, water & water course, for the purpose of conveying water within the limits of the city & which the said corporation might think necessary for that purpose. and these respondents annex hereto as part of this answer a copy of said Decree marked B.

And these respondents further aver that the said land & water & water rights now held by the Mayor & city council of Baltimore & the absolute fee simple Estate therein are held, and in the Judgement of the said corporation are necessary to be so held & used for the introduction of a plentiful supply of <sup>pure</sup> water within the limits of said city; and that the title and use of the said dam & water as claimed by said complainants would interfere and in the manner in which they have been used by Complainant as



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as aforesaid, has interfered injuriously with the operations of the said Corporation in the conveyance of water within the limits of said city, and these respondents deny the allegations of said Bill that the use of said water by the complainants is not injurious to the rights of the city of Baltimore therein, and has not affected the same, and these respondents deny that said complainant has any legal or Equitable title whatever to the Dam or the land upon which it is situated, or to Jones Falls flowing over the same, independent of any claim thereto by the city of Baltimore, and these respondents deny that the said Corporation have committed any tort whatever upon the land, dam, or water rights of the Complainant as is set forth in his said bill of Complaint, and these Defendants deny that they have committed any wrong or trespass upon the property of the complainants, even supposing that they had no right to pull down and destroy said Dam, as they did do in part as herein before stated: that the demolition of said Dam was completed in itself by one act, which has not been repeated or continued and which, if an injury to him at all this court has no jurisdiction to redress, but that it is properly cognizable at law wherefore these respondents plead to this of this court, that the cause of injury complained of & set forth in

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this bill is a matter of legal and not of equitable cognizance  
and these respondents pray hence to be dismissed with their costs  
in this behalf most unjustly sustained - and as in duty to

G. L. Dulossey  
Solicitor for Defts.

State of Maryland

Baltimore City to wit

Personally appeared before the subscriber a Justice of the peace  
in and for the said City, James P. Guter and made oath in due  
form of law that the matters of fact set forth in the foregoing  
answer are true to the best of his knowledge information and  
belief

Sworn before Daniel E. Myers  
this 24<sup>th</sup> day of November 1858

Daniel Myers

George P. Staine

vs

The Mayor & City Council

of Baltimore

James S. Guter

Pro Se

vs

The Mayor & City Council

of Baltimore

vs

John DeLong  
John DeLong & Co.

To 24th Nov 1858

George P Kane

vs

The Mayor & City  
Council of Baltimore

Superior Court in  
Equity.

Motion to dissolve  
Injunction.

Ordered that the motion to dissolve  
the Injunction in the above case  
be heard on Saturday next  
~~Thursday~~ provided notice thereof be given  
~~24 Nov 1858~~ to the scholars for compli-  
-ment, this 24<sup>th</sup> day of Nov 1858, and  
provided also that either party may in the  
interim take precedence before any Commissioner  
of this Court or any Justice of the Peace,  
upon <sup>one days</sup> ~~notice~~ notice to the other.

24 Nov 1858.

L Collins Lee

26 November 1858

Ordered that the time for hearing the motion to  
dissolve the Injunction in this case be enlarged  
until the 4<sup>th</sup> day of December 1858

L Collins Lee

C. 2.

Feb 24th Nov 1838

Epistle

From

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Mayor & City Council  
of Baco. & others

In Superior  
Court in Equity

Wm. Langston,

Issue Commission

in this case to take testimony. E.H.R.

Salary, Etc.

Wm. & Talbot

for pay

Nov. 20/55

G. H. Duboulay  
Attorney for Deft

Stane  
s  
Duties

(8.)

Agues for a Compendium

In 24th Nov 1858

George P. Thayer  
vs  
The Mayor & City  
Council of Baltimore  
J. J. Suter

Superior Court  
of Baltimore  
City

It was agreed in this  
case before the commissioners  
that the exhibits & comparisons  
should not be annexed to  
the depositions & exhibits, returned  
by them but that they should  
have the same effect as if  
annexed

G. L. Dulany  
Solr. for Defts  
Dobbin & Talbot  
for Compt -



*[Faint, mirrored handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]*

Dear

W

My dear Sir  
I am

Yours

Edw. 24th December 1838

10.

*[Faint, mirrored handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page]*

Rane  
"   
Mayor & City  
Council

In Supr Court  
Balto. City.

It is agreed in this  
case that the record of the  
proceedings of the case in the  
Circuit Court for Baltimore  
City of the Mayor & City Council  
of Baltimore is Page & others  
shall be used in evidence as  
though filed under the Commission  
issued in this case and subject to  
the same exceptions.

Robert Hall &

per curiam:

G. H. Dulaney  
Solicitor for  
Defendants

(11.)  
Mayor of City of Lowell

at

Lowell

Agreed to

Dec 18<sup>th</sup> December 1838

Have  
in  
The Mayor & City  
Council of Manhattan  
Behaves  
Court

The Deponents except to  
so much of the testimony of  
Thomas Whannahan, as is offered  
to prove by his oral declarations  
what interest or estate or the boundaries  
thereof, he designed to sell to  
to the low plaintiff in this  
case

G. L. Dubany  
for - Defts

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No. 9  
Lanston

File these  
Exceptions

G. H. Delany  
Solicitor for the State

20th January 1839

Shane

by

The Mayor & City  
Council of Baltimore.

} Superior Court  
of Baltimore  
In Equity

<sup>of said</sup> The Defendants ~~extended~~  
to the admirably in evidence in  
this case, the deed from H N  
Gambrell <sup>& others</sup> to the Mayor & City  
Council of Baltimore; the  
deed from William E Hooper <sup>& others</sup> to  
the Mayor & City Council of  
Baltimore & the deed from the  
Mount Vernon Company as the  
Mayor & City Council of Baltimore,  
~~the same~~ being inchoate, & as  
inter-alia acts

L. H. D. S. S. S.  
Atty for Defs.

1839

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Mr  
The Messrs & Co  
of Baltimore

Mr. Gough

Please fill these

Excitations

of the

of the

of the

Jan 11th January 1839

Kane

Mayor & City Council  
of Ball's

} decretal opinion  
& order

The record in this case shows that the Mayor & City Council had acquired an absolute fee simple right and title to the bed of the falls where the mill in this case was located. That afterwards Geo P Kane became the purchaser of said mill and that the dam was in fact situated on the property previously acquired by the City for the purpose of supplying the City of Ball's with an increase of base water.

If to carry out this purpose it should become necessary in the opinion of competent & helpful officers of the City, to take down this dam, then the Mayor and City Council would have the power & right to do so. But if it shall appear that no necessity required the pulling down of the dam,

then the City will so exercise their rights & power, and so enjoy their property for the purpose required of them, as



not possible, to injure or dis-  
-turb the property or rights of  
the owner, or any other  
owner of property adjoining  
or bordering on said lot.

The Corporation hereby for  
the said is the report dissolved

L. Collins Lee



St Anne  
25  
Mayor & City Council  
(24)

Opinion fords

Copies

Feb 11th January 1859

Kans

vs.

The Mayor  
& City Council  
of Baltimore &  
James S. Suter

In Superior  
Court Baltimore  
City.  
In Equity.

W. Saupson.

Please enter  
a prayer of appeal to complainant  
to the Grand Court disposing the  
Injunction -

Robert Halvott  
for complainant

Ordered by the Court this 14<sup>th</sup> day  
of <sup>January</sup> 1859 that the appeal be  
allowed, on filing a bond by complainant  
in penalty of \$5000. with sureties to be  
approved by the Court.

L. Collins Lee

Plane (151)

Sub B 4e

Prayer of A. J. Phelps  
Order of F. C. allowing  
A. J. Phelps

The 13th Jan'y 1839

... the ...  
... the ...  
... the ...  
... the ...  
... the ...

Mr. Phelps  
Care of  
Mr. Phelps

Mr. Phelps  
Care of  
Mr. Phelps

Know all men by these Presents that  
Mr George P. Kane. W. S. Perry and  
J. Crawford Neilson  
of the City of Baltimore in the State of  
Maryland, do here and finally bind unto  
The Mayor and City Council of Baltimore and  
James S. Suter in the full and just sum  
of One thousand dollars, current money,  
to the which payment well and truly to be  
made and done by him selves and each  
of us, or our each of our heirs, executors  
and administrators, jointly and severally,  
finally by these presents, Sealed with our  
Seals and dated this Thirteenth  
day of January in the year of our Lord  
one thousand eight hundred and fifty  
nine -

Whereas The said George P. Kane has before  
filed his bill of Complaint in the Superior  
Court for Baltimore City sitting in Equity,  
and obtained from said Court an Injunction  
against said Suter and Mayor and City  
Council of Baltimore. And Whereas The  
Superior Court aforesaid has since passed  
an order dissolving said Injunction, from  
which said Order the said George P. Kane  
is about to appeal to The next Court of  
Appeals for the State of Maryland.

Now the condition of the said obligation is  
such that if the said bond George P. Kane  
shall not cause a transcript of the record

proceedings in said case to be transmitted  
to the Court of Appeals of the State of Mary-  
land, within the time required by law  
and prosecute the same with effect, and  
shall also indemnify the Mayor and City  
Council and James S. Suter from all loss  
and injury, which they may sustain by  
reason of such appeal, and pay all costs  
and damages, in case the said order be  
affirmed, then this indorsement shall  
be in full force and virtue, otherwise of no  
effect.

hpnid. failed and delivered  
in presence of,

Francis. Gildea

Chas. C. Egerton

Geo. W. Ham Seal

Wm. Sperry Seal

J. Crawford Neilson Seal

Name 16.

Juter et al

I Believe the within  
Bonds sufficient

Geo. E. Sangerston Clerk

13. January 1859

Bonds approved

Z. Collinsdale

Feb 6 13. Jan'y 1859